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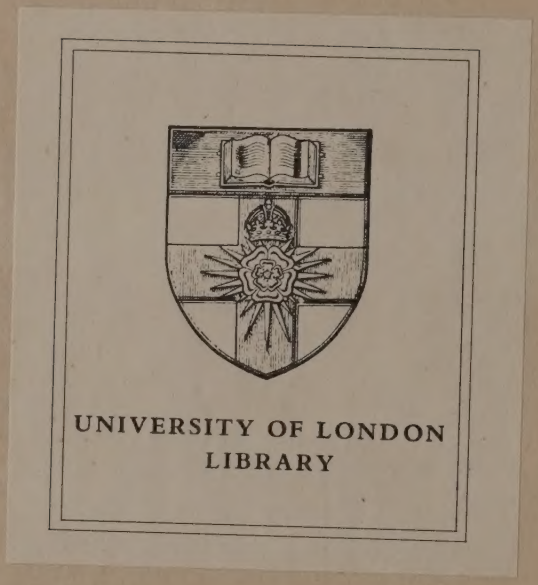

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REPORTS

FROM

COMMISSIONERS, INSPECTORS,

AND OTHERS:

THIRTY-FIVE VOLUMES.

(32.)

HISTORICAL MANUSCRIPTS—*continued.*

Session

12 *March* 1894 — 25 *August* 1894.

VOL. XLVII.

1894.

BIBL. LONDIN. UNIV.

REPORTS

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COMMISSIONERS, INSPECTORS,

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THIRTY-FIVE VOLUMES:—CONTENTS OF THE

THIRTY-SECOND VOLUME.

N.B.—*THE* Figures *at the* beginning of the line, *correspond with the* N° *at the foot of each* Report; *and the* Figures *at the* end of the line, *refer to the* MS. Paging *of the Volumes arranged for The House of Commons.*

HISTORICAL MANUSCRIPTS (ROYAL COMMISSION).

[C. 7569.] Fourteenth Report, Appendix, Part II. The Manuscripts of His Grace the Duke of Portland, preserved at Welbeck Abbey. Vol. III. p. 1

HISTORICAL MANUSCRIPTS COMMISSION.

FOURTEENTH REPORT, APPENDIX, PART II.

THE

MANUSCRIPTS

OF HIS GRACE

THE DUKE OF PORTLAND,

PRESERVED AT

WELBECK ABBEY.

VOL. III.

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.

LONDON:
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BY EYRE AND SPOTTISWOODE,
PRINTERS TO THE QUEEN'S MOST EXCELLENT MAJESTY.

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1894.

[C.—7569.]

INTRODUCTION.

The present volume—the third of the Portland series—relates almost exclusively to the history of the Harley family in the seventeenth century. We have the correspondence during that period of Robert Harley, Earl of Oxford, whilst he was still young and unimportant, and also of his immediate forbears, namely, his great-grandfather, Thomas Harley; his grandfather, Sir Robert Harley; and his father, Sir Edward Harley, all of Brampton Bryan in Herefordshire, in which county they had been established for many generations. They were connected by ties of blood and marriage with several of the leading families of the neighbourhood, and consequently occupied a position of some importance in the affairs and interests of the county. Of Thomas Harley, the great-grandfather, we know little save that he seems to have been a useful country gentleman, but of Sir Robert, his son, we know more, as a large number of his letters are preserved. He did not confine himself to Herefordshire, but went out into the great world, made friends, and corresponded, amongst others, with Dr. Donne, Sir Edward —afterwards Lord—Herbert of Cherbury, and George Herbert the poet, who sends him an interesting letter upon current events written from Charing Cross on the 26th December 1618, by request of Sir John Danvers. A marriage was proposed between Sir Robert Harley and Ann Coningsby, daughter of Sir Thomas Coningsby of Hampton Court also in Herefordshire, but the negotiation was broken off on the vexed question of money, and he ended by marrying three times, his last and most distinguished wife being Brilliana Conway, who received her unusual name of Brilliana from the fact that her father Sir Edward—afterwards Viscount—Conway was governor of the Brill at the time of her birth.

The story of the defence of Brampton Castle by Brilliana Lady Harley against the King's forces in 1643 is too well-known to the students of the history of that period to require more than

a passing notice; but there are many gaps in the correspondence of the Lady Brilliana Harley—as she is sometimes incorrectly called—which was published some years ago by the Camden Society, which are here supplied. It seems a pity therefore that, when this lady's letters were collected and separated from the general mass of the Harley papers, more care was not taken to sort out all that she had written, so as to make her story more complete, especially as now, in the events which have happened, the collected letters remain—as we believe—at Brampton, while those published in this report of course belong to Welbeck. It is to be hoped, however, that anyone who has already become interested in the gallant "Lady Brilliana" may come across these additional letters, which, although they are ill-spelt, untidy, and ill written, yet still make us realize that we are in the presence of a true woman, one who was brave but not fearless, prepared to sacrifice herself to her sense of duty, and ready, when called upon to defend her principles, to rise to the loftiest heights of heroism. It is perhaps harsh to judge her husband Sir Robert without knowing his side of the story, but her letters to him in London in 1641 and 1642 are full of entreaties to be allowed to leave Brampton and seek refuge elsewhere, "not" as she says "out of fear, but out of care for the children." It is difficult for us to understand why he did not either permit her to go away or take some active steps for the protection of his family. Whatever may have been the reasons, she had to remain, and finally she acquiesces in his decision in the matter, and on the 29th July 1642 (p. 94) sends him her scheme for defending the castle. One of her great dreads was that her husband and her son Edward should come down and share the dangers of the situation. They seem, however, both to have come into Herefordshire during that autumn, but to have returned to London in January 1643.

The castle was twice besieged, once in her lifetime in 1643, and once after her death. She herself successfully repelled the first attack which began in March and lasted on into August; but she succumbed shortly afterwards to the anxiety and strain of mind and body which she had endured. She writes on the 16th October 1643 that she has taken "an exceeding great cold" which we learn was complicated by a fit of the stone, but there seems to have been no anxiety about her condition till the 28th of the

same month, and on the 29th she died. One of her attendants, Samuel Moore, writes to a servant of Sir Robert Harley to tell him the sad news that "this Sabbath day the sweet lady's soul went to keep eternal Sabbath in Heaven, where she can never be besieged."

When the second siege took place the assailants were more successful, and the whole garrison including three of Sir Robert's children were taken prisoners and sent to Ludlow Castle. We find however (p. 122) that they were set at liberty in May 1644 and allowed to rejoin their father in London.

Sir Robert Harley was a rigid Puritan with all the Puritan's horror of graven images, and we find him, after the first part of the civil war was over, entrusted with the congenial task of superintending the planing off of the "idolatrous" pictures in Westminster Abbey and other churches and chapels, removing the stained glass from the windows, taking down "the "statues of the Virgin Mary and other saints," melting down the church plate, and destroying the precious vestments which still remained in the sacristy presses. One item which we may mention details the burning of the embroidery called "the Glory" belonging to the High Altar of Canterbury Cathedral. The list of receipts for iconoclastic work done under his direction in the years 1644 and 1645 (p. 132 *et seq.*) gives a matter-of-fact but none the less vivid account of destruction which nowadays would shock the least artistic amongst us, and makes us feel that the hand of the reformer in the reign of Henry VIII. was less harmful than the furious zeal of the Puritans under the Commonwealth. To shew the feeling with which pictures and images were generally regarded at that time, we may quote a curious letter from Brilliana Harley (the daughter) written to her brother Edward on the 14th January 1639 (p. 54). She writes "My father had lately brought him "a most horrible picture of the Great God of Heaven and Earth, "which he broke all to pieces"; and again a few days later she writes "My father sent for it (the picture) and broke it in "pieces, and I flung the dust on the water."

Before long however Sir Robert became so completely out of sympathy with these at the head of affairs that he was obliged to give up public life, and we find him living in London for some

years in great retirement and, probably, poverty, and viewed moreover with great suspicion by his former colleagues. He removed to Ludlow about 1652, having been refused a resting-place at Shrewsbury, and died there in 1656 without ever returning to Brampton, which had been burned at the time of the last siege.

Of Edward Harley—afterwards Sir Edward—the eldest son of Sir Robert, we have a very complete picture all through his life. A constant correspondence passed between him and his sister Brilliana (who afterwards married a Stanley) whilst he was at Magdalen Hall, Oxford. She gives him all the home news, the little jokes, the gossip, and the other details which make up family life, interspersed sometimes with serious advice, and recommendations to avoid the snares and pitfalls which beset him at college. His career at the University was brought to an abrupt conclusion by the troublous times, and by the necessity of choosing between the service of the King and the Parliament. For young people who had been brought up by such a mother as Brilliana, Lady Harley, there could have been no hesitation as to the direction in which their sympathies would go, and we soon find Edward and his brother under arms, and styled respectively Colonel and Major. They both saw a considerable amount of active service, particularly in the south and west of England, and several of their letters give very interesting details of the movements of the troops and the behaviour of the combatants. We may specially call attention to a long letter from Robert to his brother Edward written from Bishopstoke on the 12th April 1643 (p. 106), and another from Edward to his father, Sir Robert, written from Bristol on the 15th July 1643 (p. 112) which enters very fully into the movements of Sir William Waller's army in Wiltshire and Somersetshire.

As time proceeded, however, the young men like their father were unable to endorse the excesses into which those at the head of affairs were led, and we have (p. 166) a draft of a letter from Edward Harley to Lord Fairfax dated 23rd January 1649, which is a kind of profession of faith and shows how completely out of sympathy he had become with the aims and intentions of the followers of Cromwell. We have also (p. 109) a very interesting paper in Edward Harley's own hand written not

earlier than November 1650, in which he gives a summary of all the principal events in his life beginning with the childish ailments of whooping-cough, or chin-cough as he calls it, and measles, and winding up with the serious dangers which he had run during his country's troubles.

In 1654, he married Mary Button, daughter of Lady Button of Parkgate in Tavistock, but this marriage was soon dissolved by her death leaving him with two infant daughters; and in 1661, whilst he was governor of Dunkirk, he married again, his second wife being Abigail Stephens, daughter of Nathaniel Stephens of Essington in Gloucestershire. She was the mother, among other children, of Robert Harley, the favourite of Queen Anne, and first Earl of Oxford and Mortimer. It was through her that Robert Harley and Mrs. Masham formerly Abigail Hill were related, Mrs. Masham's paternal grandmother having been a sister of Lady Harley's father. It is curious, however, that there should be no reference throughout all the correspondence to the Hill connexion, a fact which bears out the assertion made in later life by Robert Harley that he had never heard of the relationship until he and Mrs. Masham were brought together at Court.

There are some interesting and amusing letters which passed between Viscount Conway and George Garrard, who is in one of the letters described as Master of the Charterhouse, written between 1636 and 1640, mostly from on board the *Triumph*, and sent from various places round the British Isles. Viscount Conway also writes a number of letters to his nephews Edward and Robert Harley. To Robert he writes on military topics, to Edward about books and philosophical speculations and with an occasional cooking recipe. On the 9th April 1650 (p. 186) he writes from Petworth thanking Edward for some lamprey pies and sending him careful instructions how to prepare the next supply. There are also some bright and interesting letters from Andrew Marvell to Sir Edward Harley on current events, the majority of which were written in 1677, and there is also a curious correspondence extending over several years between the same Sir Edward and Denis de Repas an ex-capuchin monk who seems to have come to England to try and better his fortunes. His letter of the 13th September 1672 (p. 326) gives a most lively and amusing account of his wanderings in Scotland and on the

continent. He is not complimentary to the progress made in civilization by the Scotch nation and gives but a poor account of the condition and prosperity of the country. His chief vituperations are however reserved for the Jesuits, from whom he seems to have received hard measure. He was in London at the time of the great fire in 1666, but as his description varies little from the already published accounts it seemed hardly necessary to print it.

Of the early days of Robert Harley, the statesman, we learn a number of interesting facts. There is a great mass of his correspondence with his father, mother, and brother Edward. Much of it is very characteristic, and goes far to prove that the popular estimate of his character is the true one, that he never spoke openly when he could be mysterious, that he never went straight to the point when he could find a way round, and that he seldom gave any one credit for acting with better motives than would have actuated himself.

In the beginning of the year 1671, Lady Harley writes to her husband urging him to send Robert and his brother to school. She objects to their "getting a strange clownish speech and behaviour, which our boys have already," and although she fears that Ned will never be a scholar, yet she is not so sure of Robin "because they tell me he is apprehensive and willing, but he is "sometimes extremely lazy so that I have been near whipping "him." A few days later she writes that she has had Robin examined about his book, and reports that the examiner thinks him very backward. In the course of that spring the boys went to school at Mr. Birch's at Shilton in Oxfordshire, and on the 28th August, Robert writes a formal letter evidently dictated by his schoolmaster, which is endorsed in Sir Edward's hand "first letter."

In 1675, there was a terrible outbreak of small-pox at Brampton, which attacked almost everyone in the house. The precautions against infection seem to our modern ideas ludicrously insufficient, but there do not appear to have been any deaths, and as the boys were at the time at school they escaped it then, though they both had the disease very severely later in life.

In July 1680, Sir Edward writes to his wife proposing to send Robert to a school kept by Monsieur Foubert, a French

protestant who had taken refuge in England. This "academy," as it is called, had become very fashionable, and was frequented by the sons of many of the leading men of the day. The curriculum consisted chiefly of what we should call accomplishments, such as riding, fencing, dancing, the handling of arms, and finally mathematics, which item sounds rather out of place amongst those previously enumerated. Foubert's academy was at that time in Sherwood Street, near the Haymarket, but it must have been moved afterwards, if Foubert's Place, which is the name of the narrow way leading from Regent Street to Great Marlborough Street, perpetuates its name and site. Among Robert Harley's later correspondents we find letters from place-hunters and politicians who remind him of the days they spent together at Foubert's academy.

Robert Harley was a most exemplary scholar, if we are to trust Monsieur Foubert's report, but his friend Edmund Nicholas, who writes to him in January 1682 (p. 374) after he has left, gives but a sorry picture of the conduct and manners of the pupils, who seem to have had very much the same amount of discipline and supervision as boys have nowadays at a private tutor's.

In May 1685, Robert Harley married Elizabeth, a daughter of Thomas Foley, the then head of the Foley family. His mother seems to have been anxious over the marriage and to have feared that the young lady would object to their small way of living, but in writing to her sister Mrs. Bromfield in the same month, she expresses her approval of her daughter-in-law, though she fears that "it will be strange to a young woman to be "cubed upe in our little house out of such a fine one" meaning Whitley Court where the Foleys then lived. Of this marriage several children were born, but the lady died of small-pox in November 1691, while still quite young, and Robert shortly afterwards married one of the Middelton family, through which connexion he became a director and manager of the New River Company. It is well known that Robert Harley was not exempt from the then prevailing vice of drinking, and he seems to have been already early in life given to excess in that respect, for we have (p. 467) a curious letter from him to his father dated 13th June 1691, evidently written in answer to a serious admonition on the subject. It is characteristic of the man that

though he never absolutely denies the accusation, the subject is wrapped up in such a cloud of words that it is very difficult to understand what impression he means to convey.

Robert Harley began his public life when he was appointed one of the Commissioners of Accounts early in 1691. From that time forward he seems to have been recognised as a coming man; a seat in Parliament was before long found for him, and he was taken notice of by many of the leading men of the day. Some of Sir Christopher Musgrave's letters to him are amusing, though somewhat enigmatical; and there is a series of letters from Henry Guy, the secretary to the Treasury, which would be more interesting if we were supplied with a key to the figure cipher which is employed. The names which are put in brackets are only suggested by the editor, and must not be taken for more than a surmise. The only absolute clue which he has been able to discover is that there are two separate numbers for each name, the difference between them being in every case 336; for example Harley himself is 104 and 440 and so on.

It may not be amiss to point out in regard to the question which has sometimes been asked, when Godolphin was first called Volpone, that in a letter from Francis Gwyn, of Ford Abbey, to Robert Harley, dated 7th September 1695 (p. 567), he says that he has had a letter "from the old Volpone lord" evidently referring to Godolphin.

This volume ends with the close of the year 1700 and the death of Sir Edward Harley. It is hoped in succeeding volumes to print selections from the correspondence of Robert Harley, or such part as he chose to preserve, during the years of his greatest prosperity until his final downfall.

RICHARD WARD.

July 1894.

NOTE ON VOLUME I.

After the first volume of the calendar of the Portland MSS. had been printed, the late Colonel Rothwell endeavoured to decipher the parts in cipher of the two letters of Lord Digby, printed on pages 231 and 245 of that volume. The interpretations in Roman letters are those which he stated he was pretty sure of, those in italics are merely guesses. He added that he might safely say it was the most unsatisfactory cryptogram he had ever had to do with, on account of the number of symbols which occur only once. The first letter :—

Hopton(?) about the
accordingly to give directions unto 224. 123. 2. 37. 457
supplies *some shall* go for *his* men
u8. 9. and 3. 7. k8 k10. g2. f6. 239. 312. 502. and
our horse
501.—and 56. 362. 228. are by this time drawing towards
W. *from* the (there) to *find*
490. 188. 457 (query 459.) 9. 73. l1. 22. 60. 31. s. 61. 186.
our force *while* our levies(?) *at home* all *way*
362. 185. 478. 362. 287. 18. 96. 236. 67. 17. 95. o3.
again much are to go on
33. 87. c6. 23. 69. 340 d10. c9. o. 69. 83. l1. g2. k4. 79.
and
into W. *as* get to
h6. n10. 93. g7. 14. 15. l1. d10. 8. 31. h9. 4. 36. and k6.
here *again* *any way* and other *late*
h3. 44. c6. 6. 91. o3. Besides that c1. k5. 281. o. 74.
there also *danger are*
8. q8. especially 459. 124. 6. 23. 24. y4. m3. 12. 67. d6. c9.
to of for our foot men
d9. l1. 5. 27. k3. e3. 48 f6. 362. 3. 23. e7. 312 so that of
the force
necessity the use which is to be made of 457. 185. e4. 48. 67.
supplies *some shall* go or stay
71. u8. 9 and 3. 8. k8. k10. g2. 361. 439. according as
you shall direct. . . . That resolution which upon your advice
for *fear* or to *write* and *hasten*
he had before taken f6. 75. e2. 9. 14. 361. l1. 511 c1. h1.
other(s)
8. k5. 9. which will be, &c.

The second letter :—our { march / motion } all foot on foot
free to pursue 362. 338 95. e7. 79. k4. 14. e7. . . .

the *more* the foot
we have very good hopes given us 71. 56. 457. 341. 457. 8. e7.

would *draw* men *from* N[ewark] for *fresh* troops
o9. 9. 7. d5. 312. e9. 23. 62. 355 f6. 58. 4. e8. l8.

and for these *also* *find* *us* { *many* / *much* } *worse*
6. 56. k1. 6. c1. 14. f6. 460. 124. 6. 186. m9. 340. 504.

and the *danger* for
48. [and] c1. 14. 457. d6. 6. f6. 405 and 442, and that we shall within very few days have up a considerable army of foot and

other (s) *far* on into W. in
possibly k5. e1. 75. 9. k4. 79. h6. n10. 374. 6. 79. q7. h7.

find *us* *or* so *some shall* go *hence* of them
186. m9. k6. 31. o. 79. k9. 6. k8. k10. g2. 231. k3. 6. 1. 48. 458.

for this *cause* *so* *of* *use* *unto* the *Scots*
56. f6. 462. d4. k9. k3. 8. m1. 12. 79. m5. 79. 8. 457. 409. 6.

Over and above all this, our hopes from Scotland are such, that

when the *kingdom* and *worse*
if all the rest should fail 476. 457. 267. 6. 209. c1. 14. 504. o.

for horse or (?) foot *in* the [?them]
208. 69. 83. f6. 228. rr. e7. h7. 457. 69. 8. 79. 8. 6.

to { *have* / *hold* } that *kingdom*
We very reasonably promise ourselves l1. 230 465. 267.

far other as *trust* in [9]
81. e1. k5. 93. l3. h7. 61 to draw &c. . . . . We

to *return*
should be in a condition l1. 72. 5. o. 376. and to send &c. . .

to *turn* to-*ward* the
. . he was now resolved l1. 51. l4. 9. 73. l1. 497. 12. 6. 457.

other (s) the foot ready for *starting*
k5. 457. 8. e7. 387 6. f6. 440. . . . . we may

how all those foot fled
imagine 240. 95. 1. 469. e7. 87. 181.

Subjoined is the key made by Col. Rothwell. All numbers below 90 are nils :—

91 *any*	361 or		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
92	362 our	a										
93 { *and* / *as*	374	b										
95 all	376 return	c	and					*again*			*are*	
96 *at*	[illegible]	d				[illegible]	*draw*	*danger*				
123 about	[illegible]	e							foot	*fresh*	*from*	
124 *also*	405	f	*far*	*fear*				for				
181 fled	409	g		go					get			
185 force	439 stay	h	*hasten*		*here*			into	*in*			
186 *find*	440	i										
188 *from*	442	j										
208	457 the	k			of	[illegible]	other			*some*	*so*	*shall*
[illegible]	458 them	l	to			*turn*				*troops*		
224 Hopton(?)	459 *there*	m					*unto*				[illegible]	
228 horse	460 these	n										
230 { *have* / *hold*	[illegible]	o			*way*						*would*	
231 *hence*	465 that	p										
236 *home*	469 those	q										
239 *his*	476 when	r										
240 how	478 while	s										
267 *kingdom*	[illegible]	t										
[illegible]	497 ward	u								*supplies*		
[illegible]	501	v										
312 men	502	w										
333 { march or movement	504 *worse*	x										
340	511 *write*	y										
341 more	[illegible]	z										
355												

CALENDAR OF THE MANUSCRIPTS OF HIS GRACE THE DUKE OF PORTLAND.

Vol. III.

HARLEY LETTERS AND PAPERS. VOL. I.

Sir James Croft, Comptroller, to his cousin, Thomas Harley.

1582, April 9. The Court—I have procured a letter to my Lord Bishop of Hereford for the burying of your father in Christian burial; and I have done so much with my Lords of the Council as that they have a good opinion and great hope of your well doing. I pray you ask my son Wigmore to send me the plate which was bequeathed to me. *Signed.*

Samuel Warde to William Bedell, at Bury.

1603, April 21—Concerning the government of the church by elders. *Two copies.*

Sir Thomas Coningsby to Sir Robert Harley.

[*c* 1603,] September 14. Hampton Court—Concerning the proposed marriage between Sir Robert Harley and Sir Thomas Coningsby's daughter, to whom he intended to give a portion of 2,000*l.*

The Same to the Same.

[*c* 1603,] November 11. Hampton Court—Agreeing to a meeting with Thomas Harley, his father. *Signet.*

The Same to the Same.

[*c* 1603,] November 15. From my house—I send you these lines by my ancient attendant Thomas Aberall, to salute you and wish you a prosperous journey and to ask you to set down in writing "what I shall researfe in my conferences with your father of the worldly consyderatyons, from conclowtyon, untell your retourne, least I tranesgrease by mystakynge your wordes at our departoure." I enclose a letter to my cousin Coningsby, who is in London and will resort to you upon receipt of it. *Signet.*

Sir Robert Harley to [Philippa, Lady Coningsby].

[1604, November 16]—Suggesting that the previous negotiations for a marriage should be renewed. *Draft.*

On the back is a draft of a letter to [Sir Thomas Coningsby] from Sir Robert Harley protesting his affection for him, and his anxiety to continue the negotiations for the marriage.

PHILIPPA, LADY CONINGSBY to SIR ROBERT HARLEY, at Brampton Castle.

1604, November 17. Hampton Court—I have received your letter from William Wenford "to reintigrate your self in to my good opinyon." The unexpected proceeding in that matter was painful to my heart, but it would be neither reasonable nor charitable to dwell in offence where proportionate satisfaction is effectually, not verbally, endeavoured. Therefore I yield my willing consent to the revival of this matter, though I think you expect Sir Thomas Coningsby "to open his pursse very wide."

SIR THOMAS CONINGSBY to SIR ROBERT HARLEY.

[1604,] November 24. Leominster—Your letter of the 16th by William Wenford contain little else than "cavalerlyke" compliments, but I cannot let the conveniency of this messenger pass to salute you kindly and tenderly, and to reply to the epilogue of your letter, *videlicet*, "yours unremovabelly yf you remoufe him not." *Signet.*

SIR THOMAS CONINGSBY to THOMAS CORNWALL, at Burford.

1604, November 26. Hampton Court—Concerning the proposed marriage between the daughter of Sir Thomas Coningsby and Sir Robert Harley, nephew of Thomas Cornwall. *Signed.*

THOMAS HARLEY to his brother[-in-law], THOMAS CORNWALL, Baron of Burford.

1604, December 7—Concerning the proposed marriage. *Copy.*

THOMAS CORNWALL to his brother[-in-law], THOMAS HARLEY.

1604, December 7—An answer to the preceding letter. *Copy.*

THOMAS HARLEY to his son, SIR ROBERT HARLEY, in Fleet Street.

1604, December 8. Brampton Castle—Advising him to break off negotiations with Sir Thomas Coningsby.

SIR THOMAS CONINGSBY to THOMAS HARLEY.

[1604,] December 24. Hampton Court—Marriage is a high and spiritual thing and to be principally contracted by love and affection and not for second causes. Let me be called an unkind father and an unrespecting friend if I do not what is fitting to be done by men of our quality. I would increase the portion, according to the proportion of love. *Signet.*

SIR THOMAS CONINGSBY to SIR ROBERT HARLEY.

[1604,] December 24—I expect you here at the New Year according to promise. For the rest I refer you to my former letters inclosed in a letter to my cousin T. Coningsby.

T. Cornwall to his brother[-in-law], Thomas Harley.

1604, December 25—I consider the effect of your letters to be effectual and plain, and Sir Thomas's to be doubtful and dark, much like the oracles of Apollo and other idols, having double and doubtful interpretations.

Thomas Harley to his son, Sir Robert Harley.

[1604,] December 25—Concerning the proposed marriage.

Thomas Harley to [Sir Thomas Coningsby].

[1604,] December 26. Brampton—I can but deal plainly with you, and I wish you would do the like.

Sir Thomas Coningsby to Thomas Harley, at Brampton.

[1604,] December 28—Concerning the proposed marriage.

Sir Robert Harley to Sir Thomas Coningsby.

1604[-5], January 19. London—I have received your letters which though they do not sum up this business, yet they draw it to an end, which I think will be the best for both sides. Though the matter may alien my good thoughts from you, it shall not estrange my well-wishing to her whom I thought so worthily of as to have thought her fit to have made my wife. I wish her much happiness and a better husband than myself. As for you, I will not owe you the requital of any kindness that you shall ever afford me if it be within the power of my performance, so let there be an end of this matter, and look that you deal with others better than you have done with me or else you will hardly get a good husband for your daughter. *Copy.*

Thomas Harley to his son, Sir Robert Harley.

[1605,] January 20—Concerning the proposed marriage.

The Same to the Same.

1604[-5], January 26—Expressing his satisfaction at the breaking off of the negotiations for the marriage between Sir Robert Harley and Sir Thomas Coningsby's daughter.

Sir Robert Harley to Ann Coningsby.

1605, May 8—"Though your father's dealings with mee hathe beene much under expectation and more disproportionable to worthy proceedinge in a matter of so deare importance, yet shall it not privilege mee to detaine from you what is your due. As I thought it unfitt to make any progression at the fyrst without your allowance—which you only vouchsafed mee by report—so to desist without your knowledge of the cause were to be guilty of uncivil neglect. Therefore to free myself from any such imputation I must acquainte you that your father's more then unkinde usage hath beene the stronge motive of this fatall breache; wherewith how far you have beene of familiarity I know not, but it

shalbe greate satisfaction to mee that I lett you know it was his faulte. And thus much only out of my respect to your worth—which otherwise I know not why it should be performed—the desert whereof shall make my well-wishinge ever accompany your better fortunes." *Copy.*

SIR THOMAS CONINGSBY to SIR ROBERT HARLEY.

1605, May 19—On Thursday last your servant brought a letter here to my daughter. My wife and I permitted her to receive it and after she had read it, we, with the prerogative of parents, demanded to see it. I find that you impute all the blame of the rupture of our negotiation to me, but I repel the imputation altogether.

J. LORD STANHOPE to all MAYORS, SHERIFFS, and other Officers of the King.

1606, June 11. Whitehall—Order to supply Sir Robert Harley, who was repairing to Shrewsbury on the King's affairs, with three good post horses upon sight of that warrant. *Signed.*

C. OWEN to [SIR ROBERT HARLEY].

1606, October 1—I understand from my brother that I am to come to Brampton to confer concerning your brother James. I will do any service I can, and I hope to find him tractable and like yourself. *Endorsed:* "From my Tutor."

The EARL OF NOTTINGHAM to all MAYORS, SHERIFFS, and other Officers of the King.

1606, December. The Court—Order to supply Sir Robert Harley, who was repairing from Court to Eyton upon Severn, in Shropshire, on the King's affairs, with four good post horses upon sight of that warrant. *Signed.*

SIR ROBERT HARLEY.

1606—Translation by Sir Robert Harley of a prayer written by Saint Thomas Aquinas.

THE PARLIAMENT.

1606[-7], February 14—Report of a speech by Mr. Fuller against the Union, and of an answer to him by Sir Francis Bacon. *See Journals of the House of Commons, same date. Two Copies.*

T, EARL OF DORSET to the HIGH SHERIFF of Radnorshire.

1606[-7], March 4. Dorset House—Direction for levying certain sums of money on behalf of the King according to the processes issued out of the Court of Exchequer. *Signed.*

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

1607, April and May—Notes of debates in the House of Commons on the Union of England and Scotland, and also of a debate on behalf of the Spanish merchants. *Nearly illegible.*

RALPH, LORD EURE to SIR ROBERT HARLEY.

1608, May 28—The Virginia ship is returned, and Captain Newport has brought over Captain Wingfield, formerly governor of the English landed there, now accused of some treachery but not yet tried. *Signed. Signet.*

The SAME to the SAME.

1608, August 12. Ludlow Castle — The King's tenants of Burrington in Herefordshire have preferred a petition to the Lord Treasurer and the Chancellor of the Exchequer against the abuse of felling the King's woods in Mocktree and Ringwood. *Signed. Seal of arms.*

RICHARD GRIFFITH to SIR ROBERT HARLEY.

1608, August 16. Purslowe—On business. *Signet.*

SIR CLEMENT EDMONDES to SIR ROBERT HARLEY.

1610, October 7. Hampton Court—I am commanded to require you to bring Sir Edward Herbert to Hampton Court tomorrow, and on your coming to address yourself with the gentleman in your charge to Mr. Hopton's lodging, the keeper of the house, and there to remain till you receive further order. *Signed. Signet.*

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

1610, November 5 and 6—Notes of debates in the House of Commons upon a memorial sent down by the King, asking for a sum of 500,000*l*. *Nearly illegible. The Journals of the House of Commons contain no entry of proceedings on these days.*

THOMAS PEACOCK to JAMES HARLEY, at Brampton.

1611, June 13. Oxford—Asking for a living.

THOMAS PEACOCK to SIR ROBERT HARLEY, in London or elsewhere.

1611, August 5. Brasenose—A letter of thanks.

The SAME to the SAME, at Lady Danvers's house near Charing Cross.

1611, October 4. Brasenose—A letter of apology and thanks.

SIR ROBERT HARLEY to [THOMAS] PEACOCK, at Brasenose College, Oxford.

1611, November 18. Blackfriars, London—Asking for news of his health.

WILLIAM ROGERSON to SIR ROBERT [HARLEY].

1611[–12], February 2. Stockton—I pray you let me meet you at your father-in-law, Sir Francis Newport's. I wish to commend a suit to you on behalf of Jonas Chaloner preacher and schoolmaster at Bridgnorth, for the living of Brampton Bryan, now vacant by the death of Mr. Peacock.

THOMAS PIERSON to SIR ROBERT HARLEY, at his lodging in Blackfriars, near the Glass House.

1612, March 30. Bletsoe—I have received your letter with the "hopefull newes of comfortable entrance" wherein I desire to be thankful for the Lord's providence. I will affect your pleasure for my going down but I should take it as a special favour to be respited till after Easter, as Low Sunday—as we call it—is the Communion day for my Lord's family and therefore I desired to be spared till after Easter week.

JOHN DONNE to SIR ROBERT HARLEY.

1613, April 7. Montgomery—"I could almost be content to be desperate of seeeinge you while I am in thys contry if I might hope well of your health. The conversation of thys noble gentleman, who refuses me not in hys house, recompences the want of any company; but my sensiblenes of any frind's sicknes ys encreased by the healthfullnes of thys place; for I thinke if Bellarmine knew what immortality dwells here, he would looke that hys Enoch and Elias should come out of thys castle to fight against hys Antichrist. But, Sir, as I was willinge to make thys paper a litle bigger than a physician's receit lest that representation should take your stomake from yt, so I wyll avoyd to make it very longe or busy, least your physician chide me as much as your patient would have done. It shall, therefore, onely say that which if I were goinge to my grave should be the honorablest peice of my epitaph, that I am your humble and affectionate servant."

WILLIAM GOUGE to SIR ROBERT HARLEY.

1613, June 24. Blackfriars, London—I know not whether you have heard the great ado about Lady Savile's bond. Mr. Emerson has been arrested for it. I should counsel you to use some means to satisfy the lady and free Mr. Emerson. It has pleased God "to settle our little state in the Blackfryers; the disturber of our peace that busie-body Neale will now never trouble us any more in this world. His head is at rest."

THE KING to SIR ROBERT HARLEY, Ranger of Bringwood Forest.

1613, July 4. Oatlands—Warrant to deliver a buck to the bearer. *Signed.*

THOMAS PIERSON to SIR ROBERT HARLEY, at Stanage.

1613[-14], January 29—My Lord dealt very kindly with me, I am returned without suspension or censure. I have promised to attend him and give my reason for refusing to conform.

HEREFORDSHIRE.

1614, June 10—An assessment amounting altogether to 442*l.* 13*s.* 4*d.*, made for furnishing a hundred men for service in Ireland.

SIR ROBERT HARLEY to the BISHOP OF [HEREFORD].

1615, September 1—I hear that you have sent for our pastor Mr. Pierson upon complaint of his not conforming to some ceremonies. If it be his infirmity, he deserves pity for his peaceable conversation,

for where he cannot submit he is willingly silent, preferring the peace of the church next to the discharge of a good conscience in the ministry. A conference for his satisfaction is intended by the mediation of Sir Francis Newport and Mr. Humphry Lee. I beseech you not to cut off our hopes herein by too quick a sentence. *Copy.*

THOMAS PIERSON to SIR ROBERT HARLEY.

1615, September 8—The Bishop used me very kindly. I objected the unlawfulness of the points I contested, "being significatyve for edification, which is a relligious use which prevented many objections, for I denyed the whyte garment used in the Father's tymes to have had any such significatyve use, nor to have been a ministering garment as ours is; but the minister's owne peculiar garments which he might dispose of after his death." He would only grant me two months' delay for an answer, as the subject had now been discussed for three years, and he would not lose his bishopric for my sake.

SIR R. HARLEY to the BISHOP OF HEREFORD.

1615, November 3—I am "bound" by your patience and goodness to us. If after a conference an agreement cannot be come to, then Mr. Pierson will leave rather than give you just cause for offence. *Copy.*

The SAME to the SAME.

1615[-6], January 20. Stanage Lodge—A letter of thanks, accompanied with the present of a pet doe. *Copy.*

THOMAS PIERSON to SIR ROBERT HARLEY.

1615[-6], February 3. Brampton—The Bishop came not to church but I dined with him and he used me very kindly and sent to the inn to pay my charges.

SIR HERBERT CROFT to his cousin, SIR ROBERT HARLEY.

1616, October 27. Croft—Asking for a copy of a clause in his grandmother's will, and enclosing a list of the rental of lands in Lenthall Starkes "which my cossen Harley did passe unto mee."

SIR ROBERT HARLEY to his cousin, ALICE WARBURTON.

1616, December 28—"Lettres to the minde are as pictures to the face, which are commended not for loveliness but likeness, but heerin are neerest the life that they can speake. By this proportion I must take care that you may know this be mine, not by speakinge but by speakinge like me; for lines of complement are like fancies, and they that prevent the truth of the charte are only good peeces to the life."

Postscript. "I pray you commend my true love to my cossin Warburton your worthy better haulfe." *Copy.*

SIR ROBERT NEEDHAM to his cousin, SIR ROBERT HARLEY.

1617, April 7. Shavington—Mr. Berrington is mindful of his promise of coming to you, but I am oppressed with a great cold which has cast me into a tertian fever, so that I never had so much need of his help before. I beg you therefore to excuse his coming for a week. *Seal of arms.*

GEORGE THROCKMORTON to SIR ROBERT HARLEY, at his house in Aldermanbury.

1617, April 30. London—Asking his assistance on behalf of a poor woman the wife of a soldier who had been absent from her for seven years having "been pressed a souldier" under the Earl of Essex and now standing bound for a new voyage.

SIR E[DWARD] HERBERT to SIR ROBERT HARLEY, at Stanage.

1617, July 17—"Study God, study yourselfe, take heed of new and particular opinions, nor let the name of Church in any country or tyme, deceive you. God's church is all mankind, though some are his most beloved; neyther doth he make any whom he denyes the means to come to him. Take heed of superstition and blasphemy, and above all things that you make not a worse God then yourselfe, for then you condemn him, who must out of the same justice condemne you. Keepe his commandements and thinke you know enough; and lastly since in all other opinions you must eyther believe the truths written in your own hart or the relations of others, neyther must you follow him who persuades you first, or him who doth threaten you most, but him who teaches you best; neyther can you beleeve him againe unless he come to some principles agreed of universalls, and therefor in your owne heart. See then how farre they will carry you, and whether they agreed not with the views of the best relligions. In the meane, fear not to censure relligions which are bad, since under that name offering of children to idols, blasphemys, and all sinns against nature have been taught, and that by men who in all things else did equall us for worldly wisdome. Returne then to that love of God which only can make you wise, acknowledge his order in his workes, whereof if you see not a reason, expect it in that your second birth."

SIR JAMES FULLERTON to SIR ROBERT HARLEY.

1617, July 21. London—Asking him to bestow a buck on John Parkinson.

SIR E[DWARD] HERBERT to SIR ROBERT HARLEY.

No date — "After a longe silence you have writt a large beleife, which I nothinge doubt but you beleive; but I wonder why you write it to me as yf I eyther had or could oppose it. Looke on my letter againe. I am sure there is nothing you will deny unlesse it bee that God makes no man whom hee gives not means to come to him. Yf you thinke otherwise, keepe it to yourselfe, for it is a very new and dangerous opinion and which I am sure you would not have to bee beleived on your part yf God had given you a power to create, for thatt man bee made whether he will or no, and after damn'd whether he will or no. For my part I beleive whosoever loves God with all his hart, which is his will, with all his mind, which is his understandinge, with all his strength, which is his faith, and loves his neighbour as himselfe, is capable of eternall happines, and that farre in all relligions one may go; at ther perill who beleive more, especially in any relligion but ours, or thinke that any can forgive sinnes but God. In the meane, I beleive all of the mercy of God that you can say, which contradicts not his other attributes, and shall ever hold it a great absurdity to deny opinions which I understand not. And now you see how plainly I speake. Take heed of the blasphemy of Jesuits and Puritans."

The Same to the Same.

1618, June 8—"It is neyther my meaninge, nor, I am sure, my words to say any man may bee saved in any relligion. I am so farre from that, that I scarce know any relligion, as it is commonly taught, which hath not some error and some ignorance, nor will I give worse names least I should be thought to presume. That so, you see how farre I am from that opinion you seem'd to doute from my words.

"Yet I thinke there is in every relligion and ever was and ever wilbee enough taught to bringe a man to happines eternall yf he follow it. For I must never beleeve God's providence which extends to man and every creature besides, only to faile in that point which is both the most necessary and to which the rest are subordinate. Yf you aske mee how this is wroughte, I may say I cannot tell, but the notion is written in my hart that God's providence is over all his works, from which no ignorance of mine must make me depart, especially when all the works of God are miraculous. This is then the derivation of my beleife. Yet can I by this take no liberty, since that enough will imply all that can bee expected in a pious life towards God and man, and which hath beene ever commanded in all laws and relligions whatsoever. Now what the invention of man hath added beside, doth not concerne that eternall Providence any more than yf when he give you meate, you would say the fault were his yf you surfaited. In the meane, look you whether this be not true, that in the meane you may with comfort behold those mercyes, which without impiety wee cannot believe ever to have failed mankinde, in that especially which must be confess'd the end of creation. After this separate the pure from the impure and feare God still—for all historyes are but records of his justice—and have charity with all men, and bee not the lesse a true Christian; and so, my friend, you wilbee above that profane and superstitious multitude which vex others with their contradictions; and so only you will come to know and love God."

Postscript. "I must not bringe myselfe under censure by the mistakings of any factious ignorant; and therefore desire you to keepe these things to yourselfe, till the world bee better prepared to heare them."

The Same to the Same.

1618, September 8—"I shalbee ever glad in my conferences not to bee mistaken by you; for no man is more zealous of the glory of God, or that is willinger to lay downe his life for it then myselfe. In the meane, do but consider whether these reasons can instruct you in a good relligion, which would deceive you in a bad; and then see how poore arguments they are, which bidd you renounce yourselfe and tell you the foolishnes of our relligion is better then the wisdom of another. All these motives will make men Turks as well as Christians. Do therefore study yourself."

William Rowley to Sir Robert Harley.

1618, October 26. Shrewsbury—Our public preacher died this morning and there is some speech here of appointing Mr. Pierson in his place.

Sir Charles Howard to Sir Robert Harley.

1618, December 4. Salisbury House—Your letter gives me great light and knowledge of no ordinary consequence, but for my more

perfect information it behoves me to see the deed between my great uncle and my brother Harry, which is in the custody of Lady Corbet, who will not deliver it up except by order of law. *Signed. Signet.*

GEORGE HERBERT to SIR ROBERT HARLEY, at Brampton.

1618, December 26. Charing Cross—"I am enjoyned to write to you by Sir John Danvers to which mine owne obligations were occasion inough, and therefore I am not over much beholding to those busnesses which justly excuse him from writing at this time, because my recompenses of your favours consist in this only. Now, his desire is to acquaint you with those passages of newes which this time affords; for though it is likely that the time after the holydaye will bee fruitfuller of novelties yet his love expects them not but first certifies you that there are come agents hither from the Low Cuntries to treat of divers matters, as of certaine injuries which they are thought to have offerd to our merchants of the Indies, wherein they have satisfied the King reasonably. But yet he will heare of no other affaires untill they have satisfied him also concerning the fishing which the Hollanders use in our coasts, which the King would so appropriate to himselfe as that either his subjects only should practise it, or at least that the Hollanders should pay him tribute out of their fishing. Now to the answering of this demand of the King's, these agents pretend they have no commission, and therefore deferr it untill they trace farther from the States. My Lord of Buckingham was observed on Christmas day to bee so devout as to come to the chappell an houre before prayers began, of which is doubted whether it have some further meaning. Sir Charles Howard and his Lady are at much difference, and shee being at London, sent for him—as she sayes—to make peace with him, which he refusing to doe, hath given her occasion to protest she will never speake with him againe, and to threaten him that if he will not give her halfe her estate to live on by her selfe—for shee desires no more—shee will find friends to compell him to it. There is a Spanish lawyer hath written a treatise concerning the lawfulnes of kings resuming the donations of spirituall livings into their owne hands, and taking it from the Pope's. This passeth in Spaine freely with consent of King and counsell. There is a Frenchman who writt a poem heere in England and presented it to the King, who because of his importunities gave him a reward but not so great as he expected, and therefore he grumblingly said that if he had given it to the Pope he should have had a greater reward. Upon this, he was forbid court and kingdome, yet was seene lately neere the King, which some observing who heard the interdiction denounced to him, told the King, and so he is committed to prison."

SIR E[DWARD] HERBERT to SIR ROBERT HARLEY, at Brampton.

1618[–19], January 23—"I must not contribute so much to the destruction of the friendship betwixt us as to suffer it to fall on my part. Let me therefore awake you to those testimonies of affection which absence allows; or, if nothing else, to cherish the memory of him who since he knew you first was, and, yf you please, ever wilbee your true friend."

FRANCIS [GODWIN], BISHOP OF HEREFORD, to SIR ROBERT HARLEY.

[16]18[–19], February 5. Whitborn—Inviting him to pay him a visit.

The Lords of the Council to the Earl of Northampton, President of Wales, and the Lieutenants of Warwickshire.

1619, April 28. Whitehall—Discharging an order made on the 11th of February for repairing and watching the beacons in Wales and Warwickshire. *Copy.*

John Brian to his cousin, Sir Robert Harley, at Brampton Bryan.

1619[-20], March 4. Stapleford—I have long been called Bishop Brian and therefore have a visitation in purpose. (1) to Mr. Hammer of Hamer, (2) to Mr. Barker of Hammon, and (3) to Brampton Bryan Castle. *Signet.*

Achatius, Burgrave and Baron de Dona to the Lord Lieutenant and others, in Herefordshire.

1620, June 4. Westminster—Application for a loan on behalf of the King and Queen of Bohemia. *Signed. See Calendar of State Papers, Domestic, September* 14, 1620.

W. Earl of Northampton to the Lord Lieutenant and others in Herefordshire.

1620, July 3. Tickenhill House—Enclosing Baron Dona's letter, unopened. *Signed.*

The King to the Ranger of the Forest of Bringwood and the Chace of Mocktree.

1620, June 16—Warrant to deliver two bucks to Thomas Harley, a member of the Council established in the Marches of Wales. *Signed.*

Herefordshire.

1620, August 12. Wigmore—A list of persons in Wigmore thought fit to contribute to the loan for Bohemia. *Draft.*

The Same.

1620, August 15. Hereford—Directions concerning the collection of the free loan to the King and Queen of Bohemia.

Sir Thomas Coningsby to Sir Robert Harley.

1620, August 19. Hampton Court—My son has told me of your meeting, and that you have undertaken the office of one of the general collectors of this county. I am unmeet for such a compliment, but to assure you of my devoted inclination to that service, I authorise you to marshall me with any other neighbour of mine of my own rank. *Signed. Signet.*

Sir Robert Harley, Robert Whitney, and Humphry Baskervile to the Chief Constable of the hundred of Huntington.

1620, August 24—Directing him to give summons to all persons within the hundred of Huntington who "dispend" 4*l.* per annum in lands, or are esteemed to be worth 100 marks in goods, to appear before them at Kington on the last day of August next to "attend" the service recommended in the letters of the Earl of Northampton, Lord Lieutenant of the County. *Signed.*

W. Earl of Northampton to the Sheriff and others in Herefordshire.

1620, August 30. Castle Ashby—Urging expedition in the matter of the loan to Bohemia, and informing them that other counties have acted very liberally. *Signed.*

Herefordshire.

1620, August 31. Kington—A list of contributions to the loan for Bohemia in the hundred of Huntington.

The Same.

1620, September 11. Bromyard—A list of contributions in the hundred of Broxash.

The Same.

Same date and place.—Another list of contributions in the hundred of Broxash.

T. Harley to the Constables of Leintwardine.

1620, September 15—On magisterial business.

Sir Thomas Coningsby to Sir Robert Harley and James Tompkins.

1620, September 17. Hampton Court—Informing them that he did not think the estate of his neighbour John Streeke was sufficient to warrant his being charged with the furnishing and maintenance of a light horse in the trained bands of the county. *Signed. Signet.*

Sir Robert Harley to Fitzwilliam Coningsby, Humphry Cornwall, and Francis Smallman.

1620, September 18. Brampton—Reminding them to nominate a collector of the loan for Bohemia, in the hundred of Wolphy. *Signed. Signet.*

T[homas] Harley, Sir Robert Harley, and S. Griffiths to the Chief Constables of the hundred of Wigmore.

1620, September 18. Lentwardine—Directing them to cause the persons named in the schedule hereto to pay the amounts set against their names at Wigmore on the 23rd of September as their contributions to the loan to the King and Queen of Bohemia. The total amount was 50*l.* *Signed.*

HEREFORDSHIRE.

1620, September 26—A list of the contributories to the loan for Bohemia in part of the hundred of Radlow. Total amount 33*l.* 10*s.* 8*d.*

The SAME.

Same date—A list of contributories in another part of the hundred of Radlow. Total amount 66*l.* 12*s.* 4*d.*

SIR THOMAS CONINGSBY to SIR ROBERT HARLEY.

1620, October 2. Hampton Court—Enclosing 40*l.* as his subscription towards the loan for Bohemia. *Signed. Signet.*

HEREFORDSHIRE.

1620, October 3—A list of the contributories to the loan for Bohemia in part of the hundred of Wolphy. Total amount 21*l.* 5*s.* 4*d.*

The SAME.

Same date. Hereford—A note of the contributions of the Justices of the peace, with their divisions. Wolphy. Sir Thomas Coningsby, William Cornwall, John Blunt, William Wigmore, Mr. Colers of Hatfield. Wigmore, Thomas Harley. Brocas, Sir George Chute. Greytree, John Kyrle, John Predall. Webtree, Sir Roger Bodenham, Sir John Scudamore, Sir John Bowyer, Henry Vaughan, John Scudamore, James Baskervile. Huntington, Sir Robert Whitney, Sir Humphry Baskervile, Sir John Townsend. Stretford, Francis Smallman, Edward Vaughan, Sir Samuel Aubrey. Grimsworth, William Dansey, John Hoskins, Thomas Jones. Wormelow, Giles Bridges, Walter Pye, John Abrahall, Edward Powell. Radlow, Sir Richard Hopton, Ambrose Elton, Richard Cocks, William Unet, Edward Lyggen, Thomas Lucy. Ewyas, Lyson Thomas.

ACHATIUS, BURGRAVE and BARON DE DONA to the EARL OF NORTHAMPTON and others, in Herefordshire.

1620, November 6. Westminster—Begging them to hasten on the collection and remittance of the loan, and assuring them that it was never intended that the money should be paid to anyone except himself. *Signed.*

[SIR ROBERT HARLEY?] to GENERAL [SIR HORACE] VERE.

1620[-1], February 14; London—One Shephard, a lawyer of the Lower House, made an intemperate speech against a bill which was to restrain the profanation of the Sabbath, and inveighed with some bitter words against Puritans, saying there were many snares to catch poor Papists, but not so much as a mousetrap to catch a Puritan, whereupon the House put him out; and because I think the Parliament will not proceed to define a Puritan, I take the boldness to present you with his character. If that bill should pass the Lower House, the Upper would never let it come to the hazard of receiving the royal assent. *Copy.*

THOMAS GATAKER to his cousin, SIR ROBERT HARLEY.

1621, June 22. Rederith—Excusing himself for not having considered "the qestions proposed" on account of the sickness of a friend. *Signet.*

The SAME to the SAME, at Lady Leveson's house in Blackfriars.

1621, June 25. Rederith—I had proposed to come to come to see you this morning but I am compelled to ride to Croydon to see my sick friend.

JAMES USSHER to SIR ROBERT HARLEY, at Brampton.

[1621,] July 9. Dublin—I have no other occasion to write to you but by barely saluting you to let you understand that I do not forget you. In your kinsman I discern nothing but an honest and simple heart. I hope he will give me that contentment which I expect and you desire.

NATHANIEL WARD to SIR ROBERT HARLEY.

1621, August 6—If my own and other men's care for my brother's liberty were commensurable with yours I verily believe we had obtained it for him. Now I purpose to rest till Mr. Townsend's return. Had I found him at Court when that Jubilee was, I believe a "naked" petition would have prevailed. We have a strong rumour that all lectures are to be dissolved or discharged. Other news we hear little, and so much the less because of a late proclamation against telling or writing of matters of that nature. "Bohemia hath putt on a better face and hart then it had; warres likely to be hoote and sudden in the Netherlands. The Palatinate yet quiet. I see many soldiours, going for Polande, this day about the streets." Lady Bedford went two or three days ago to the Hague. If your leisure served you it were a good voyage and you might have good company and for want of better, mine. "My Lord of Canterbury shooting att a buck in my Lord Zouche's park shott the keeper in the arme, who att the stenching of the blood, dyed. He took it very ill, and hath, as we heare, given 40*l.* a year to the widdowe during her life and 100*l.* apiece to three children. The King when he heard of it, excused him, as well he might, and said he was a foole or a knave that thought him any ill for it." *Signet.*

NEWS from the PALATINATE.

1621 [October ?]—Giving an account of the retreat of the English troops out of the Bergstrat.

NEWS LETTER.

1621, October 17–27. Frankenthal—In my last I gave you the news of Count Mansfield's coming to our succour. He arrived on the 12–22, and the next day my Lord and he joined forces for "disasseiging" Frankenthal, a very easy work as the enemy had fled the night before. Captain Burroughs has got great honour. Captain Fairfax, Ensign Askewe, Mr. Burroughs, brother to Captain Burroughs, and Mr. Fairfax, brother to Captain Fairfax, have been slain. The enemy gloried to have put us to a retreat in the Bergstrat but they have stopped their mouths by this shameful flight. Mr. Lee is very well. He has been all through the siege in the town as a volunteer.

The LORDS OF THE COUNCIL to the LORDS——

1621[–2], February 29. Whitehall—Giving directions concerning the purveyance for the King's household. *Copy.*

The Lords of the Council to the Justices of Assize.

1621[-2], March 2. Whitehall—Directing them to remind the people of the great benefits they have enjoyed from the King's good government of the country particularly with regard to a general pardon then shortly to be published, and a proclamation for the general wearing of cloth and stuffs made of wool grown within the King's dominions; and also to remind them of the proclamations prohibiting "lavishness of speech." *Copy.*

The Lords of the Council to the City of Hereford.

1622, March 31. Whitehall—*See Calendar of State Papers, Domestic, same date.*

Walter Stephens to Sir Robert Harley.

1622, April 18—Concerning Mr. Roystorne who was living with another man's wife. *Signet.*

Sir Henry Wallop to his kinsman, Sir Robert Harley, at Brampton.

1622, April 29. Farley Wallop—My wife is London for her health, where I will deliver your letter. I must leave her to give her own confidence and Robin to give his. I think he is free, and I am content he should for my part enjoy full liberty and freedom in making choice of such a companion from whom he must derive a great deal of happiness or infelicity. I am sorry to hear of your lady's want of health. I am glad to understand of my uncle's well-doing. *Signet.*

John Roystorne to Sir Robert Harley, at Brampton.

1622, May—Asking for money to enable him to leave the country. *Signet. In the fold is a draft of a letter in Sir Robert Harley's hand from himself and others, dated May 23, 1622, condemning the scandalous and impudent life of John Roystorne, who had brought the woman with whom he was living to Wigmore, and had preached there.*

News Letter.

[1622, May]—Lord Doncaster is gone Ambassador into France. God bless his success, answerable unto some prophecies. The King of Bohemia has gone by ship from the Brill towards Calais, and so to the Palatinate. You hear of Lord Oxford's close imprisonment in the Tower, and Mr. Harley's (?) in the Gatehouse. We do not know the cause of it.

William Gouge to Sir Robert Harley at Brampton.

1622, May 11. Christ Court, Blackfriars, London—The French child of whom you wrote has been put to school. My predecessor the ancient minister of Blackfriars, Mr. Egerton, is dead and was buried with much honour. *Signet.*

[The Lord Lieutenant of Herefordshire] to ——

1622, May 29. Ludlow Castle—Enclosing a copy of a letter from the Lords of the Council dated May 18, 1622. *See Calendar of State Papers, Domestic, May 18, 1622. Copy.*

PRINCE CHARLES to the KEEPER of Bringwood Chace.

1622, June 15. The Court at Theobalds—Order to deliver a buck to the bearer. *Signed.*

EDWARD WATERS to SIR ROBERT HARLEY, at Stanage Lodge.

1622, June 25. Burney—On business.

HEREFORDSHIRE.

1622, July 13—A list of the contributions of the hundreds of Herefordshire made to the King "towardes the recovery of the patrimonie of his Highnes' children in Germany." The total amount is 584*l.* 11*s.* 11*d.*

News from GERMANY.

1622, July 21. Manheim—The Marquis of Baden's country is wasted. Monsieur Tilly is before Heidelberg. Gonsales has taken Fridelsheim and Neustadt, and we expect every hour to hear he is before Gemersheim. Hagenau will soon be rendered if it is not already. Ludenau and Wissenburg will follow quickly, Count Mansfield having drawn his garrison out of them, and then Maydenburg and Biddeserg.

After the Archduke Leopold and Gonsales have joined forces there wants nothing but the taking of Frankenthal to join Alsatia to Luxemburg, Italy to Flanders, the ocean and the Mediterranean.

Obentrant's regiment of horse is disbanded for want of pay.

SIR JOHN KYELE, FITZWILLIAM CONINGSBY, ROGER VAUGHAN, and SIR JOHN SCUDAMORE to [SIR ROBERT HARLEY?].

[1622, July]—Regretting his absence, and enclosing for his signature a warrant to the chief constable of the hundred of Wigmore. *Signed. Enclosed in the preceding list of contributions of July* 13.

JOHN BRIAN to his cousin, SIR ROBERT HARLEY, at Brampton Bryan.

1622[–3], January 2. Bryan Stapleford—A complimentary letter. *Signed. Signet.*

SIR EDWARD CONWAY to SIR ROBERT HARLEY.

1622[–3], February 15. Theobalds — A complimentary letter. *Signed. Signet.*

The SAME to the SAME.

1623, July 3. Oatlands—I thank you for your letter and your father for his. If I had had time I would have sent to my cousin Walter before this the order to prepare certain things which must be done on my part. I will maintain my offers, and you may put the books to engrossing. I shall be glad to see you for the love I bear you. *Signet.*

The Lords of the Council to Sir John Scudamore, Sir Robert Harley, and others.

1623, July 7. Whitehall—Appointing them commissioners to examine into the subject of unjust charges and exactions reputed to be made in Courts of Justice. *Copy.*

Mary Fane to her cousin, Sir Robert Harley.

1623, July 9. Sewlhay Lodge—"Your excuse was made before your letter came, for men in love are always held not to be their owne men, and if you be not your owne I would I knew whose you are that I might let them know how much I am thers. Many things it is likely I may heere from you, which I canot heere from others, but that I think I shall heere from others before you will admit me to the secrett, and therefore in spit I pray for all happines upon it. The King's gratious favour to my noblest kinsman I rejoyce at, being much better then frownes, and if it weare this time's custome to rewarde worth I could not be but confident of more, but as it is, God be thanked that the fortunes he hath are injoyed by a temperate contented minde. I pray present my sirvis there. I wish you could writ of the Prince's arivall heere. What he doth or what he will doe is soe compted before we can heere it, and soe doubtfull, being but conjectures, that all we heere I counte nothing till we see him."

The King to Sir Robert Harley.

1623, July 19. Theobalds—Warrant to deliver a buck out of Bringwood Chace to the bearer. *Signed.*

Brilliana Conway to her cousin, Sir Robert Harley.

[1623,] July 25—My father will not be at dinner tomorrow with my Lady Vere, but Thursday must be the day that we shall meet him in London. My father's not coming tomorrow is because he hunts with the King "and thes lines loouse there end if by this information you are not moved to come to Grinwhich, for which Mr. Malle bids me lave my commandes on you." What news Mr. Killigrew has brought out of Spain we know not but "I knowe and hope you knowe that none honnors, loves, and respects you more then" I do. *Signet.*

Sir Edward Conway to Sir Robert Harley.

1623, July 25. Andover—"My good sonne, for so meethinkes it is your good pleasure that the stile runn, and meethinkes it is as rich an embrodery to mee as it can bee silke lace to you: although I have tolde you true of my selfe, and coulde finde in my heart to allay my daughter to raise your valew, yet since shee hath a long race to runn with you, and that you have advantages enough over her already, I will not give you this that you may misprise her out of her father's mouth, and therfore I will onely say that the bargaine was equally made, and I pray God much good may it doe to you. But if it wolde please you to bee as good a sonne as shee will bee a wife, and as good a husband as I will bee a faithfull friend, I shall take it for a greate favor of fortune that I may have the honor to stile myself your loving father."

Sir Edward Conway to his "brother," Thomas Harley.

1623, October 1. Theobalds—Congratulating him on the union of their children and sending deeds for his signature. *Signed. Signet.*

SIR EDWARD CONWAY to his son[-in-law], SIR ROBERT HARLEY.

1623, December 10. London—I am glad to hear of your good health and your father's and that piece of me in whom the contentment you take is more comfort to me than her health.

The match in Spain goes on, but slowly. Mansfeld's and Brunswick's troops are in some disorder, the French King having cast his assistance with Mansfeld. Tilly has sent five regiments to stay the course of Bethlem Gabor, who has wasted Austria to the gates of Vienna. *Signed. Signet.*

The LORDS OF THE COUNCIL to the JUSTICES OF THE PEACE in Herefordshire.

1623, December 23. Whitehall—Ordering them to take special precautions against thieves, and to enforce the statute of Winchester touching watches and wards. Searches for bad characters to be made at least once a month and as nearly as possibly simultaneously. The magistrates or some of the high constables to scour the ways with a sufficient number of horse. The houses of correction to be looked to that there be sufficiency of stocks, and that persons taken there be kept to labour.

As the price of corn is high in the North and West and likely to be higher, all unnecessary alehouses are to be suppressed. Care to be taken that ale and beer are of moderate strength and that there is no vain consumption of grain. *Copy.*

SIR H[ORACE] VERE to his nephew, SIR ROBERT HARLEY.

1623, December 30. London—The loss that my wife and we of the family have had has brought me sooner to England than I intended. My wife thinks that she is not so well in your opinion as she was, as she has not heard from you since this sharp chastisement was laid upon her, but I am so charitable as to believe that your letters have miscarried, and that you would not have omitted to speak a word in season. The writs are out for a new Parliament.

My niece Bray is become Lady Wake since my coming over. Yesterday my Lord of Oxenford became a free man and is to be married tomorrow. *Signet.*

JEREMY WHITAKER to SIR ROBERT HARLEY, at Lady Leveson's house in Blackfriars.

1623[-4], February 12. Oakham—On religious topics.

SIR HORACE VERE to SIR ROBERT HARLEY.

1623[-4], February 25. London—By your kindly letter you have fully made your peace with this family. Mr. Secretary has to-day gone to Newmarket. It is generally believed that all things go well. He is cheerful and very merry. *Signet.*

The SAME to the SAME.

No date—Thanking him for sending Mr. Secretary's letters.

SIR EDWARD CONWAY to his son[-in-law], SIR ROBERT HARLEY.

1624, April 29. Windsor—If you be upon any royal points in Parliament or have passed any, concerning the subsidies or otherwise, I pray you to give me an account thereof, that I may labour to dispose honours and make such answer as shall be requisite. *Signed. Signet.*

PRINCE CHARLES to the RANGER of MOCKTREE FOREST.

1624, June 24. The Court at Greenwich—Warrant to deliver a buck to Thomas Harley. *Signed.*

CHRISTOPHER BROOKE to SIR ROBERT HARLEY, at Brampton Bryan.

1624, July 20. Lincoln's Inn—Asking for the discharge of Thomas Bowyer who had maintained a musket in his train-band for twenty-seven years.

JOHN BRIAN to his cousin, SIR ROBERT HARLEY.

1624, September 10. Bryan Stapleford—Asking him to procure the presentation of a petition by Mr. Secretary Conway for the punishment of an affront offered to two justices, Sir Henry Bunbury and Mr. Byram in the execution of their office, who out of their zeal for the "reformation of profanations" have suffered great damage. *Signet.*

SIR EDWARD CONWAY to his children, SIR ROBERT HARLEY and his Lady.

1624, October 9—Reporting the movements of Mansfeld and the Prince of Orange. *Signet.*

SIR EDWARD CONWAY to his son[-in-law], SIR ROBERT HARLEY.

1624, October 27. Royston—My "joye is excedeing great in my Brill's safe delivery, and with advantage of the sex." I will use no hand but my own to express my joy, and I thank you for the choice of me to present the child to God and for your offer of the name. My advice to you however is that you let him take your father's name.

The LORDS OF THE COUNCIL to the [EARL OF NORTHAMPTON,] Lord President [of the Council of Wales].

1624, October 31. Whitehall—Directing him to levy 1,100 foot soldiers. Namely two hundred in Warwickshire, a hundred and fifty in Worcestershire, four hundred in Gloucestershire, a hundred and fifty in Herefordshire, and two hundred in Shropshire. *Copy certified by the Earl of Northampton. The delivery to Sir Robert Harley certified by Edward Herbert.*

W. EARL OF NORTHAMPTON to the DEPUTY LIEUTENANTS of Herefordshire.

1624, November 8. Ludlow Castle — Enclosing the preceding letter from the Lords of the Council. *The delivery to Sir Robert Harley is certified by* [*Edward*] *Herbert.*

BRINGWOOD and MOCKTREE.

1624, November 13—The examination of Robert Harding before Sir Robert Harley concerning a charge of deer stealing in the Forest of Mocktree brought against Richard Buckley, vicar of Bromfield in Shropshire. *Signed by Sir Robert Harley.*

1624, November 15.—The examinations of William Tedstill and Nicholas Vicaridge before Thomas Harley and Sir Robert Harley concerning a similar charge. *Signed by Thomas Harley and Sir Robert Harley.*

Same date.—The examination of Elizabeth Tilbery and John Bowen before the same parties concerning a similar charge. Also part of the examination of Francis Jones.

SIR JOHN SCUDAMORE to his kinsman, SIR ROBERT HARLEY, at Brampton.

1624, November 18. Homebury—On behalf of Mr. Buckley who had accidentally killed a deer in Bringwood. *Signet.*

E. LORD CONWAY to ——

1625, August 26. Southampton—A letter of good wishes. *Signed.*

E. LORD CONWAY to his children, HELIGENWITH and MARY CONWAY.

1625, September 9. Southampton—If there be traffic between Brocklesby, Brampton, and you, then tell those Ladies that I have found out that the best thing to be glad of in being a baron is that the strife is taken away from them for place, since the eldest daughter of a Baron goes before a Knight's wife of the Bath. Last night was buried Mr. Secretary Morton leaving a desolate and unfortunate lady; by which women may be made wise to know that husbands with lands are fair blessings; for service and offices make fair shows and promises but are no inheritance. *Signed. Signet.*

E. LORD CONWAY to his son[-in-law], SIR ROBERT HARLEY.

1625, October 17. Salisbury—On family matters. *Signet.*

SIR EDWARD CONWAY to his brother[-in-law], SIR R. HARLEY.

1625, November 2. The *Rainbow*—Our voyage thrives like the last Parliament; much fair hope, but the one spoiled by some few factious men, and this by two or three foolish men. Mr. Glanville, Secretary of the Fleet, says that "the want of the Pate fleete hath cast us on the Prate fleete and lost us the Plate fleete." I hope to see you this Christmas at Brampton, for there will be no coming to Court for shame. By the law of England, whensoever a murder is committed all who are present are counted faulty. *Signed.*

SIR ROBERT HARLEY to his cousin, SIR WALTER PYE, Attorney General of the Court of Wards and Liveries.

1625[-6], January 6 to 28—Correspondence concerning their standing together for the County of Hereford in the next Parliament. *Copy.*

[The Justices of the Peace in] Herefordshire to the Lord Lieutenant of Wales.

1625[–6], January 7. Hereford—We have observed that lists of names of those who are expected to contribute to the loan to the King have not been drawn up except in Wales. Inasmuch as this county is not within the Principality, we humbly make remonstrance against the direction which has been sent us requiring a certificate of names. *Draft.*

E. Lord Conway to his children, Sir Robert Harley, and his Lady.

1625[–6], March 5. Saint Martin's Lane (Vicus Martini)—A letter of good wishes and thanks. *Signed.*

Brilliana, Lady Harley to her husband, Sir Robert Harley.

1625[–6], March 10. Brampton—All the family are well, "in which number I must not forget Ned, who is as mearry as his littell soule can bee tell he is asked wheare you are and then he makes some monefull tune. This day I hard that Mrs. Harbert was brought to bed of a soone which is very wellcome news to me, and I purpos to send for the midwife shortly, not that I think I shall have present use of her but for my better satisfaction when I find myselfe a littell ill." *Signet.*

The Same to the Same.

1626, April 21. Brampton—I give thanks to God foi this new blessing of another son. The child was christened last Sunday, and my father[-in-law] stood for Lord Vere, and Sir Andrew Corbet for himself. As you said nothing of the name, I chose that I love best, being yours. Ned "can goo a littell which I am not a littell glad of. His grandfather will not yeald that any should be loved like him. He must be the finest boye in his iees." Pray send down another cradle rug; it must be red. *Signet.*

H. Lord Vere to his nephew, Sir Robert Harley.

1626, August 6. Great Saint Bartholomew's—Having heard nothing from you since we parted we hope it means that you are packing up bag and baggage to come hither. *Signet.*

The Same to the Same.

1626, August 25. London—"I doe love my nevew and neece Harley most affectionatlie." *Signet.*

E. Viscount Conway to his son[-in-law], Sir Robert Harley.

1626, August 31. Saint Martin's Lane—I went to Court on Tuesday, where I received the King's hand assigned to a bill or warrant to Mr. Attorney for drawing up a commission for the mint master's place. I think you should come up to town with some speed, not only to see your own "Acts" carefully passed nor to kiss the King's hands for the favour received, but for the satisfaction of your real duty in a place of honour and trust, without which the prejudice of the King may be much and the expectation of your integrity unsatisfied. *Signed. Signet.*

E. Viscount Conway to his son[-in-law], Sir Robert Harley and his Lady.

1626, December 5. Egham—I have been urging Sir Henry Wallop, as a friend, to be at the commission for loans at Winchester on Thursday next. It is feared there may be some opposition in his division. If it is so and he is not present, it would be laid to his absence. I should be sorry if any "discontentment" should befall him as he is near you in blood, so I beg you will let him know the continuance of my opinion. I had intended to give him a "deputation of Lieutennancy" if he would accept it, so I hope his absence will not frustrate my intentions now. *Signed.*

Sir Henry Marten to Sir Robert Harley.

1627, April 11. Doctors Commons—Asking him to procure permission for Mr. Denison, a minister, to dedicate a religious book to the King.

Viscount Kilulta to his son[-in-law], Sir Robert Harley, and his cousin, Edward Read.

1627, June 13. Southwick, near Portsmouth—On money matters. *Signed.*

Viscount Kilulta to his son[-in-law, Sir Robert [Harley].

1627, June 16– On business.

Sir E. Conway to his brother[-in-law], Sir Robeet Harley

1627, June 16. Court—"I pray send down my flying brother Smith, for beside my ability to entertain him, my brother Ralph wants a play fellow." I would to God I had a good preacher. Send me one if you can and he shall live with me. *Seal of arms.*

Books.

1627, July 12—A catalogue of English, French, and Latin books.

T. Harley to his son, Sir Robert Harley.

1627, November 6. Brampton Castle—Giving an account of the murder of Widow Clerk's daughter by the son of William Grisewood. *Signed. Signet.*

Thomas Taylor to Sir Robert Harley, at his father's house.

1627, December 29. Aldermanbury—Our parish is better by one good neighbour. Mrs. Crispe has taken and is in Lady Sand's house. We hear no more of any Parliament since the six score thousand pounds was promised to be lent by the City. The King of Sweden has certainly taken Dantzic, whereat our merchants rejoice. I am to preach tomorrow and Tuesday and Wednesday to the greatest audiences that ever I saw in my church. *Signet.*

W. Earl of Northampton to Sir Robert Harley.

1627[–8], January 6—A letter of compliments and inquiry.

VISCOUNT CONWAY to his son[-in-law], SIR ROBERT HARLEY.

1627[-8], February 2. Candlemas Day—God bless you and give you comfort in all those things wherein I have a national interest, which is in yourself, your wife, and your children, and your friends, and in all things else in the circumstances of this life and the assurance of that to come, whereof I believe so much as I have left of care, fear, and jealousy for the making of your bed or the administration of necessary conveniences belonging to your house, having learned a moderate construction from the Roman Catholic precept that if you see a friar in bed with a woman you are to believe he is there to give her ghostly counsel, and if I hear of or see a neighbour's maid in your house, how sluttish, how cleanly, how young, how old she be, by the same rule I imagine she is there to scour, to sweep, to brush, to set in order or perform your necessary duties of house or person. A few words suffice to the wise. I will draw this discourse no longer. *Signed. Signet.*

THOMAS PIERSON to SIR ROBERT HARLEY, at his house in Aldermanbury.

1627[-8], February 16—The gentlemen of Shropshire have resolved to support Sir Richard Newport and Sir Andrew Corbett for Parliament. In the clerks of Convocation, I have little hope of good. The Hall chimney at Shiffnal Manor was blown down on the windy Monday, but none of the Countess of Arundel's family were hurt. *Signet.*

SIR ROBERT HARLEY.

1627[-8], February 29, and 1627 (sic), March 30. Aldermanbury —A list of petitions to be made on a day of humiliation. *Draft.*

H. LORD VERE to his nephew, SIR ROBERT HARLEY.

1628, July 11. The Hague—There is yet no speech of taking the field. Spinola is not yet returned from Spain. Commend me to Lord Conway the younger. *Signet.*

VISCOUNT CONWAY to his son[-in-law], SIR ROBERT HARLEY, at Brampton.

1628, September 25. Whitton—My health is as competent as can be expected from the age of sixty five years. This night the King goes to Hampton Court where I join him tomorrow to take up my duties. There are rumours of the relief of Rochelle. *Signed. Seal of arms.*

HERBERT CROFT to NATHANIEL SOUTHWELL, Minister of the English College, Rome.

1628, September 30. Venice—My Lord Carlisle goes away on Friday. Buckingham is surely dead.

"From Rome to Terni I went the ordinary way to Loretto, to which Terni it is convenient to arrive by night for the disposing of the journeys following, which may be well done the going the two first posts the first night as I did. From thence—giving our viturin a

mancia—we went three miles tourninge on the right hand from the ordinary way to a water fall, which I entreat you to let Father Gregory understand of, for his book *Leandro* was my first autor. There comes from Riete situated in the hills that way towards Naples a river called only *Fiume di Riete.* To this you pass in the way mentioned three mile up a steepy and very rocchi hill on the side, having on your left hand in the vally the river Nar, in vulgare *Nera* or *Negra*, scourging down with a mighty noise. When you come to the top in a playn you come to the river of Riete about the bigness of Arno at Tivoli, which runnes in a channell neer half a mile, *linea recta*, cut in a rocke by Clement the Eighth, with a speedy descent so that it may without any windings take its full force and beere for the ensuing leppe; and as I have seen some take three or four hopping strides immediately before theyr leppe, so a little before the downfall the rocke is left very ruffe, whereat the river rebounding oftentimes with great fury, becomes a floud of white snow having no signe of water, and so in an angry and desperate froth, throwes it selfe downe head longe a perpendicular precipice, i dare well say, higher then St. Peter's Church, if not neer the coupolo. I protest I had a horror to behold from above the hideous hole it falls into, full of hellish confusion, from which rises a great cloud ascending a good way above the hill from whence it falls. It was my chance to be there in a clear morning when the sunne from the east strikes full on the cloud and caused the goodliest sight of raynebowes that ever I beheld. In a word, it is one of the rarest things that ever I beheld. From thence it runnes downe into Nera, presently. From this hill you go an untoward way and come into Strada Romana at Strettura, in which passage there is a place where you may see the cloud from the river about eight mile of; the noise passeth not above two miles at the most. From thence to Spoletto to dinner although late, and so to Monte Falio that night, and not to Fuligno as I did trustinge to your relation that Monte Falio was in the way to Assis, for they stand thus. From Monte Falio strike to Assis and thence to Falderno, for from Assis there is no rode, having dined at Fuligno, as far as you can that night. On the left hand a mile from Assis there is the famous place of Madonna Degli Angeli, the feast whereof is on the 2nd of August, on which day and in which place our Lady with our Saviour compassed with Angells granted a perpetuall Indulgence to that place, called *Il pardono de St. Francisco.* There is St Francis his hart. At Assys is also St Clare's body and in her church the crucifix that spoke to St Francis to Loretto. At Ancona there never wants shippinge to Venice, but the passage ill, because sirrocco is the wind that serves, which is always tempestuous. He that will go that way, let him observe this; take a little boat that hath many rowers, whoe can goe against the wind or in a calme, when greater vessels must lye still. Make this bargain, that if ill weather or sickness molest him he may leave the barque, payinge proportionably the way he hath made or a little more, that the master stay not in any towne by the way for carriage; if he do, to be answerable for his expences. Take little provision by sea, for they put daily into towns. Give no earnest or little, with obligation that the wind servinge, he set out such an hour. If afterward you leave the barque, go a foote to some town next or take horses secretly, keeping your own counsell, for in the Pope's State this [is] the law, they that come from sea can take no horse but post horse, and if you once enter the post horses—unless they be of return—you cannot take any other although you meet with a commodity of other horses far cheaper. Never take post horses nor ly

at the post inn. The best way I find is this, if you can find meanes at Loretto—where I found great store of horses and coaches of return to Bologna—to make a good bargain to Bologna, reserving in your choice to leave him at Rimini if you please; where, as soon as you come—it being in your way—you shall always find barques to Venice, and if the wind be good, take the opportunity, for if the wind last but one day only you will get to Venice or at least to Chiozza, twenty-five mile from Venice, from whence you goe with oares within land to Venice for nine pence. From Ancona to Venice is two good days saile. We at Ancona set out presently with a good wind and came to Fano that night, but with a loitering and lewd fellow who kept a queane in his barque. At Fano began tempestuous weather, we left our barque and came by land to Rimini. There we mett with a boat of oares of returne to Chiozza. They pay six or eight shillings from Ancona, from Rimini half. A time may come when these things may pleasure a friend, and therefore I present them unto you, a great part of this night's work. Of all the citties in Christendome, Venice the Bell; but—*pro scelus*—drowned more in lewdnesse then water, a miserie unexplicable, so beautifull houses and habitations, so defiled with sinne; an exterior paradise, an interior dungeon. Our embassador is entertained most royally, allowed eight hundred crownes a day for his table. What he hath effected is unknow; he goeth shortly to Turin to winter there."

PROPHECIES.

1629—A rhymed prophecy relating to the union of England and Scotland, and another prophecy foretelling terrible events in the course of the year, beginning early in May.

THOMAS PIERSON to SIR ROBERT HARLEY, at his house in Aldermanbury.

1628[-9], January 14. Brampton—"Your letters from your lodging in Hell do bring unto us good and heavenly newes" concerning the day of Humiliation and the resolution of your house to begin with the cause of God.

SIR THOMAS WROTHE to SIR ROBERT HARLEY.

1629, March 28. London—"Considering your solitude in the absence of your vertuous Ladye, I am embouldned to invite you to a Lenten dinner tomorrowe. I presume not thus upon you because I have any extraordinary cates to set before you, but my extraordinary affectation of your company incites me to importune this favour."

Postscript. "If you please to dine with me, then I pray let us goe together to Mr. Vamport's in the morning, where I will provide a seat for you."

VISCOUNT CONWAY to his son[-in-law], SIR ROBERT HARLEY.

1629, April 21—A letter of thanks and good wishes. *Signed. Signet.*

The SAME to the SAME.

1629, June 9. Greenwich—I have been in council with the King and my Lords all the afternoon which is the reason why I have detained your servant. *Signed. Signet.*

The Same to the Same.

1629, July 28. Saint Martin's Lane—I am sorry that I have no news "because I know that you my sonne Harley having been so long verst in parliamentary affaires, cannot but long after the contingent things to it, and you, my daughter, borne in a strange land, the daughter of an ambassador and a counsellor will bee out of countenance if you be not able to know what the neighbour princes doe, and what we think to doe. Indeed we have left much thinking and will do the more; and our neighbour princes have left doing and will consult the more." The Low Countries are the only stage where irons are in the fire. Sir Charles Morgan's regiment has come into Holland, and four hundred men that were in Jersey and Guernsey are added to them.

I have not heard of Tom Conway since his arrival in Holland. Fulk Hanks will probably obtain the commission; he seeks to levy two hundred men. I had a cheerful entertainment with my daughter Smith last week, but have a quarrel with you, son Harley, that you did not kill all the rats, for you left one that bit little Bridget by the nose, and the mark remains, but "without mayme or deformity."

I have sent my daughter Pelham mourning weeds for her father, and a "dressing" for her mother.

Tomorrow I look for my wife here. Tonight, the King whom I left at Theobalds, comes, and goes on his progress tomorrow; which will last until the end of August, when he goes to Windsor.

When I have spoken with my wife "as all good husbands do," I will settle what to do with my family. *Signed.*

John Rogers.

1629, November 2—An account of the murder of John Rogers between Nether Lye and Aimstree.

Viscount Conway to his children, Sir Robert Harley, and his Lady.

1629, December 26. St. Martin's Lane—I have been absent from Court on account of indisposition but hope to go thither shortly. *Signed. Seal of Arms.*

Sir Robert Harley to his father, Thomas Harley, at Brampton Castle.

1629[-30], February 22. London—Enclosing writs for removing David Lewes and Edward Parry to take their trial at Hereford for the murder of John Rogers. *Signet.*

E. Lord Conway to his brother[-in-law], Sir Robert Harley.

1629[-30], February 28. Lisnegarny—I am very glad to hear of your health which is my chief desire, "but if you knew the profound leisure I have, it might be sayde that to pray for my frends did scarce deserve theire thankes bycause it were done as the most men take tobacco, to passe away time. But when I shall be learned in the law I hope my neighbors will not be so honest but that they will give me occasion to practice my reading." *Signet.*

The Lords of the Council to the Tanners of the West Riding of Yorkshire.

1629[-30], March 24. Whitehall—Assenting to their petition that they might be permitted to convey raw hides to be tanned into sole leather from London to Hull by sea. *Copy.*

VOL. II.

Forest of Mocktree.

1630, May 4—Confession by William Keysell of Hanford in Shropshire of having killed a deer in the year 1628 within the precincts of the Forest of Mocktree.

T. Harley to his son [Sir Robert Harley].

1630, May 6. Brampton—Concerning his tenants at Kingsland and certain proceedings in the Star-chamber.

Sir Isaac Wake to his brother, Sir Robert Harley.

1630, May 18. Turin—I have received your letter of the 16th of April. I am glad to hear my brothers and sisters are all well.

G. Willis to Sir Robert Harley.

1630, June 11. Durham House—Appointing a day for the trial of the pyx. *Receipt acknowledged by Sir Robert Harley.*

John Wollaston to Sir Robert Harley, at Brampton.

1630, June 26. London—I received your letter, with one enclosed to Sir William Parkhurst. For the pyx, all is well. The Jury committed a gross error, for they made the trial of the angels with the crown standard, and the trial of the crown with the fine gold standard, "which for the present did a littell distract them, but by ther dilligence the did recover ther oversight." Gold comes in reasonably well but is very likely to slacken because the exchange is falling, and we have had the help of Barbary gold. We hear that there is store of silver shipped for England out of Holland. You have heard of the death of the great Lord of Northampton. The sickness does not increase much. *Signet.*

Viscount Conway to his children, Sir Robert Harley and his Lady.

1630, June 28—The Prince was christened yesterday in the King's chapel by the Bishop of London, the "deputyes gossops" being the Duchess of Richmond, the Duke of Lennox, and the Marquis Hamilton, assisted by Lady Mary Villiers, the Countess of Denbigh (Dinbeght), and the Marchioness (Markesse) Hamilton. The Prince's train was carried by the Lord Treasurer and the Lord Marshall, and the canopy over the Prince was borne by six barons of whom Lord Vere was one. All the rest of the nobles, both lords and ladies, were present. The Lord Mayor presented a cup of gold of a thousand pounds, besides the fashion. The lords and ladies had not a "wafer" apiece. *Signed. Seal of arms.*

The Same to the Same.

1630, July 27. Saint Martin's Lane—I acquainted the King with the examination you sent me; he would not believe he had given a reprieve in so foul a fact, and commanded me to signify his pleasure to Lord Dorchester to recall what had been given to stay the proceeding, and to leave the party to the execution of justice. God bless you both, and my Ned, Robin, Tom, and Brill. *Signed. Seal of arms.*

Postscript in his own hand. I thank you for my good dinner, for going on purpose from Langley to St. James's I found the King and Queen at dinner at the most noble feast for fish and fowl that I ever saw

Peter Smart.

1630, August 3—Sentence passed in the Court of High Commission at York upon Peter Smart. *See Calendar of State Papers, Domestic, same date.*

In another hand, on the same sheet, is written. God's blessing or his vengeance light upon Harsnet and his venerable rabble of "rakhell" censurers according to the justice or wrong they have done to me Peter Smart. Amen I beseech thee, oh righteous Judge of the world.

Viscount Conway to his children, Sir Robert Harley and Brilliana, Lady Harley, at Brampton.

1630, September 3. Langley—I am going to-day to Windsor to wait upon the King. My hearty commendations to our son, Secretary Edward, and my acquaintance Robin, and my unknown Thomas and my dear Brill. *Signed. Seal of arms.*

The Same to the Same.

1630, September 10. Langley—Asking for news of them. *Signed. Signet.*

Viscount Conway to his son[-in-law], Sir Robert Harley.

1630, September 16. Langley—I go to Hampton on Monday, where the King comes and the Council reassembles. *Signed. Seal of arms.*

Richard Cooke to Sir Charles Fox.

1630 [October 18], Saint Luke's Day. Ludlow—Concerning a crossbow which had been found in Ludlow.

Sir Robert Harley to his father[-in-law], Viscount Conway.

1630, November 11. Brampton—Concerning a dispute between himself as Master of the Forests of Mocktree and Bringwood, and Mr. Sampson Eure, the King's Attorney, attending the Council in the Marches of Wales, whose servant John Jervise had killed a brace of hares. *Copy.*

VISCOUNT CONWAY to his children, SIR ROBERT HARLEY and BRILLIANA, LADY HARLEY, at Brampton.

1630, November 13. Langley—"I thanke you for your cheeses but more for that freedome of thoughts which gave you leave to remember mee." I am going shortly to London from whence I have foreborne to go on account of the sickness. This week's bill however was but twenty-nine. *Signed. Seal of arms.*

THOMAS CONINGSBY to SIR ROBERT HARLEY, at Brampton.

1630, November 16. Hereford—On behalf of Edward Groves and Edward Clinch, who were accused of killing deer. *Signet.*

VISCOUNT CONWAY to his children, SIR ROBERT HARLEY and his Lady.

[c. 1630, November]—God bless you both and all your boys and wenches. My good son I must tell you that the next morning you gave me commission to move the King for your leave, I did so. I have also spoken with the secretaries and commissioners.

BRINGWOOD FOREST.

1630, November 16—The confession of Edward Glover, of Overton in Shropshire, who was prosecuted by Thomas Hollensworth, one of the keepers of Bringwood, for killing a deer in Norbatch within the precincts of Bringwood. A suit had been commenced against him by Sir Robert Harley in the Star Chamber.

VISCOUNT CONWAY to LORD DORCHESTER.

1630, November—Concerning the dispute between Sir Robert Harley and Mr. Sampson Eure, the King's Attorney in Wales. *Copy.*

DOCTOR THOMAS TAYLOR to SIR ROBERT HARLEY.

1630, December 20—A complimentary letter. *Signet.*

VISCOUNT CONWAY and KILULTA to his brother[-in-law], SIR ROBERT HARLEY.

1630[-1], February 27. London—That my father's will should be performed is most just. I shall expect it from my son and friends; and his designs were ever guided by reason and honour. I would gladly take the performance of the will on myself, giving sufficient security for the performance of it, but I fear I shall have a great question with my (step) mother, which I would be as loath to fall upon as a rock at sea. I would be content with some loss rather than not part with her with a good grace. *Signed. Seal of arms.*

THOMAS PIERSON to his patron, SIR ROBERT HARLEY, at his house in Aldermanbury.

1631, April 2. Brampton—Mr. Thompson of Montgomery is dying, and you are requested to put Lord Herbert in mind to deal with the Lord Keeper for an honest and able successor. Your lady is better. *Signet.*

The Lords of the Council to Sir Thomas Conway.

1631, August 30. Whitehall—Licence to Colonel Sir Thomas Conway, who had already levied eight hundred and forty volunteers for the service of the King of Sweden, to levy a hundred and twenty more for the same service in the Counties of Oxford, Bucks, Gloucester, London, Middlesex, Essex, Kent, Worcester, and Radnor *Six signatures.*

Sir Thomas Conway to his brother[-in-law], Sir Robert Harley.

[1631], September 23. Drury Lane—Concerning the difficulties he experienced in raising his men.

Edward Reynolds to Sir Robert Harley.

1631, November 24. Lincoln's Inn—Amongst other friends, you have made yourself one of the chief in endeavouring to do good to me in the preferment of my brother. I hear from Lady Clerk that Sir Henry Marten has spoken to Lord Herbert, who answered hopefully. *Signet.*

The Same to the Same.

1631, November 28—Concerning a preferment which was in the hands of the Lord Keeper. *Signet.*

Sir Robert Harley to John Brinsley, Preacher of God's Words.

1631, December 8—I hope Providence has designed you for Montgomery. "This benifice is in the gift of my Lord Keeper, and his Lordship will receave the man whom my Lord Herbert will command, and I hope this inclosed will persuade him that you shalbe the man. Now I must acquainte you that my Lord Herbert is a greate scholler, and you know that turninge better than I can direct you; and his Lordship sayes he loves a puritan but not a predestinator, wherein I doubt not but God will give you wisdome to lett his Lordship know that that mistery of Godliness is not to geve liberty to presume to him, but a restrainte from him." *Signet.*

The States Army.

1631—A list of the States army, which included English, Scotch, French, Walloon, and Dutch troops, amounting altogether to 71,761 men.

The English contingent consisted of the regiments of Lord Vere, Lord Wimbledon, General Morgan, and Colonel Harwood, containing altogether 9,610 men.

The Scotch contingent consisted of the regiments of Colonel Broge, the Earl of Buccleuch, and Sir Davie Balford, containing altogether 3,888 men.

The French contingent consisted of the regiments of Monsieur Chastillon, Colonel Hauterive, the Duc de Candala, and Colonel Maison Neuve, containing altogether 7,190 men.

The number of the Walloon forces was 2,210.

There were also mounted troops to the number of 5,900 horses.

The yearly pay for the horse and foot together amounted to the sum of 1,012,343*l.* 8*s.* 6*d.*

IRELAND.

1631[-2], February 22—Propositions to be considered by the King for the Government of Ireland. *See Calendar of State Papers, Domestic, same date and references therein. Endorsed by Sir John Coke with the King's approval.*

ANN STRODE to her mother, MARTHA, LADY BUTTON, at Parkgate, Devon.

1631[-2], March 2. Nuningham—Mr. Strode has been to London and has taken the best course he could, which I hope you will not dislike; for if he had not done as he did, Nuningham would have been sold, for Sir Richard is all for selling and giving large portions to his daughters; therefore, good mother see that what was promised may be settled upon Mr. Strode. I much fear Sir Richard will be an unkind father to his son. He tells all the country that his son married against his will and therefore he will sell all he can away from him, but I hope you will make it appear that he was the first and most desirous to have us married, for he "put in" the banns, and urged you to have us married, but now he puts all the fault on you.

SIR ROBERT MANSELL to SIR ROBERT HARLEY.

1631[-2], March 7. Marques House—I have a trial at the Assizes at Hereford with Sir Sackvile Crowe, one who has little reason to let the world witness his ingratitude to me who ever studied his advancement, and was the author of his fortune. *Signed. Signet.*

WAGES in HEREFORDSHIRE.

1632, April 10—Rates of wages for servants and labourers. A bailif of husbandry by the year 53*s.* 4*d.* An ordinary husbandman, by the year, 40*s.* A labourer by the day, without meat and drink, from the feast of All Saints till Candlemas, 6*d.*; and with meat and drink 3*d.* After Candlemas till harvest, without meat and drink 8*d.*, and with meat and drink, 4*d.* A mower by the day without meat and drink 12*d.*; with meat and drink 6*d.* A reaper, like wages as a mower. A woman reaper, without meat and drink 8*d.*; with meat and drink 4*d.* Sawyers, by the hundred 18*d.*; and with meat and drink 10*d.* A thatcher by the day without meat and drink 12*d.*; and with meat and drink 6*d.* A carpenter and a mason like wages as a thatcher. A labourer with a carpenter or mason by the day without meat and drink, 8*d.*, and with meat and drink 4*d.* A maid servant by the year 20*s.*; a dairy maid by the year 96*s.* 8*d.* *Copy.*

The STAR CHAMBER.

1632, May 2—Petition of William Prynne, prisoner in the Tower, to the Lords of the Star Chamber, giving his reasons why they ought to admit his answer under his own hand without his counsel. *Copy.*

SIR ROBERT HARLEY to SAMPSON EURE, at Ludlow Castle.

1632, November 9. London — Concerning a suit between Lady Harley and Sir William Croft. *Signed. Signet.*

The Same to the Same.

1632, November 16. London—On business. *Signed. Signet.*

Robert Long to Sir Robert Harley, at his house in Aldermanbury.

1633, April 29—Asking him to return the accounts which he had sent him of the Master of the Mint's place. *Signet.*

Peter Warburton to Sir Robert Harley, at Aldermanbury.

1633, November 13. Boughton—Recommending certain ministers, namely Mr. Nichols, "not conformable," Mr. Langley, Mr. Hering, Mr. Porter of Hanmer in Denbighshire, and Mr. Fisher of Whitchurch in Shropshire. *Signet.*

Thomas Hill to Sir Robert Harley.

1633, November 21—Recommending a minister, Mr. Ensigne, Fellow of Emmanuel College, well known to Dr. Stoughton. *Signet.*

Thomas Doughty to Edward Harley, at Brampton.

1633[-4], January 16. Emmanuel [College]—I sought through all the town and fair to buy you Eusebius's *Ecclesiastical History* and Josephus's *Jewish Wars*, but I could obtain neither both being out of print. *Signet.*

Viscount Conway and Kilulta to his brother[-in-law], Sir Robert Harley, at Brampton.

1633[-4], February 2. London—"I was glad to heare of your health and of my sister's; the request you make to me for my bestowing somme of my time upon you in writing, is very easy, for if I did not give it to you I should loose it, therefore not worth thankes; the Queene of Bohemia will not comme hither untill the King returne from Scotland, whitch I thinke is to say she will not comme at all; in Germany the Duke of Bavaria and Walstein make great preparations for the fielde, but the Princes doe still holde fast together; the King of France talkes of goeing with a great army into Germany, but God hath forbid me to trust in Princes; the States make great preparations for the fielde; soe doth theire enemy, there being smalle hope of agreement; here we prepare for the fishing whitch it is thought will be of great benefite; my Lord Embassador Weston is comme into France; he hath bin receaved in Italy with all honour and magnificence especially at Florence."

Humphrey Fenn.

1633[-4], February 7—Copy of the introduction to the will of Humphrey Fenn. *See Calendar of State Papers, Domestic, February* 21, 1633–4.

Peter Thatcher to Sir Robert Harley, at his house in Aldermanbury.

1633[-4], February 11. Salisbury—Concerning his removal from Salisbury to another charge. *Signet.*

JOHN STOUGHTON to [PETER] THATCHER, at Salisbury.

1633[–4], February 13. Aldermanbury, London—Informing him that Sir Robert Harley has sent a messenger to offer him a living, and urging him to accept it.

PHILEMON STEPHENS to CHRISTOPHER HARVEY, minister, at Whitney.

1633[–4], March 8—After all the expectation and waiting, the copy has been returned to me without an *imprimatur*. It is not objected to on the score of false doctrine nor is it other than fit for the pulpit, but for the press—they say—there is no need of it. I shall send it to Cambridge and I desire you will write for it an epistle dedicating it to Sir Robert Harley. *Signet.*

SIR ROBERT HARLEY.

1634, May 15—Answer to a petition to the King from Sir Robert Harley, praying that he might either enjoy the office of Master of the Mint, or that if Sir Randall Cranfield's patent be not repealed, that he might have some consideration for the loss of his office. The answer being that the King accepted the petitioner's submission and would consider the matter. *Signed by Sir Thomas Aylesbury.*

LADY CRANFIELD.

1634 [May ?]—In Easter term or thereabouts Lady Cranfield coming to Sir Robert Harley in a railing manner, amongst other words, said that she and her children had the worst of it and every one that heard of it "wondered wee let you live." *Endorsed. Words of Lady Cranfield.*

STANLEY GOWER.

1634, June 21—Certificate by William Carte, pastor of the church at Hantworthe, John Newton, vicar of Ecclesfield near Sheffield, and Thomas Toller, pastor and vicar of Sheffield, that they saw no cause, in respect of any promise of his to the people, why Stanley Gower should not remove to any place where he should be called by God. *Signed.*

HEREFORDSHIRE.

1635, January 13—Order made at the Hereford sessions before Sir John Kyrle, Baronet and other Justices, that any woman convicted of having a bastard child should be committed to the House of Correction for a year, and that the man so offending should be bound over to his good behaviour for the space of a year. *Copy.*

The JUSTICES OF THE PEACE for Herefordshire to THOMAS, LORD COVENTRY, Lord Keeper.

1635, May 26. Hereford—Petition to move the King to grant letters patent for a collection to be made on behalf of the sufferers of a recent fire. *Draft.*

SAMPSON EURE to his kinsman, SIR ROBERT HARLEY, at Brampton.

1635, August 5. Ludlow Castle—Concerning a dispute with his neighbours at Leintall Starks about a watercourse. *Signet.*

The Same to the Same.

1635, September 26. Ludlow Castle—The Lord President has consented to stand godfather and has chosen you to perform that christian office for him. The christening is to be on the 1st of October and we hope to see both you and your Lady at Gateley the night before. *Signet.*

The Same to the Same.

1635, September 29. Ludlow Castle—Your acceptance of the troublesome, though christian, office, is a double obligation to bind me and my wife to you. Your partners will be a cousin-german of my own name and the young Lady Cornwall. *Signet.*

John Workman to Sir Robert Harley, at Brampton.

1635[-6], February 13. Tedbury—By God's mercy I am again settled here where I enjoy the benefit of a profitable and comfortable ministry, and have my house reasonably well replenished with young scholars, and though it is often a grief to me to think what liberty once I had to publish the praises of the Lord in the great congregation and to be deprived of that liberty now; yet it is some comfort to me to be employed in that calling for which I think myself most fit.

There is a gentleman of this county, Mr. Thomas Estcourt, heir to Sir Thomas Estcourt deceased, who is desirous to obtain a good wife and professes that his desire is chiefly to prefer religion in his choice. He is a proper gentleman, of a loving disposition and civil conversation and "opposite" to the views of the times. He lives in Lincoln's Inn and expects to be called to the bar next term. He is twenty-six or twenty-seven years of age and is I conceive of good parts and hopes. His estate will be 900*l.* a year at least, in land, if he survive Lady Estcourt. In the meantime he will have 240*l.* a year during her Ladyship's life, to whom he must pay 2,000*l.* at once and 1,000*l.* at her death, by agreement, in consideration of his wardship. I entreat your opinion whether you think your Lady would think him a fit suitor for one of your daughters. *Signet.*

The Ships.

1635[-6], March 1—List of the counties of England and Wales with the particulars of the ships and money charged upon each. The total was forty-five ships of the burden of 20,350 tons with 10,660 men, and the sum to be levied 218,500*l.* *See Calendar of State Papers, Domestic, same date; but the tonnage given there is greater, and the number of men smaller.*

Thomas Wilson [Rector of Stratford-on-Avon] to Sir Robert Harley.

1636, May 16. London—On business concerning his brother. *Signet.*

Viscount Conway and Kilulta to [George Garrard].

1636, June 28. The Downs, aboard the *Triumph*—"I have received a letter from you by Sir Jhon Pennington, and another by a gentleman for whom I did the service you as an officer of my Lady Griffin's

did command me. Commend my most humble service to hir, and assure hir from me that all hir commands to me are favours, and I complaine not of want of power for any thing soe mutch as that I want meanes to serve hir. From the ninth of June to this present we have had continually fowle weather, that we coulde neither sleepe nor eate quietly, we were one night sitting downe to supper, when a tumble of the ship flunge all the dishes on the ground. Dowse let goe the holde of a poste to take up a shoulder of mutton but his unsteady footing made him sit downe in the sawce of one dish with his feete in the buttered meate of another. On Midsummer day we had the sharpest weather, and then was Dowse flung downe staires, and if it had not bin for three mariners that came to his rescue he verely beleaves he should never have received more use mony. There is an apothecary a very pretty fellow and your neighbour, in the first fowle weather he offered the master and his mates, glisters round gratis to set him a shoare any where. Mr. Faggard preatcheth and endures the sea like an apostle, but a secret antipathy makes him and gunshot irreconcileable; all this and five times more, and better accidents—for humane nature is frayle and subject to forget the best things—was I ready to write to you, from the westerne sea when newes came to us that the Frentch fleete was gone close by theire owne shoare to Dunkerke. The relation with all circumstances was soe probable, that with all speede we came to this place for to give them a visite. Dowse swore like one with a longe feather and noe beard that he would be above hatches, but howsoever one man forsweares an inne, the house is not presently undone. The holde hath bin a receptacle of goode folke and would not have wanted guests. Here we finde all peace if the windes would cease to make warre with us of which we cannot yet see any appearance.

This day Sir Robert Howard and my Lord of Suffolke's second sonne came aboard and dined here. Sir Robert will goe along with us the rest of this summer, and I shall be very glad of his company. I pray commend my most humble service to my Lady of Northumberland."

Postscript. "The ketch was sent into Plimmouth with letters as we came hither and is not yet heard of. They thinke she is lost by the fowle weather. Captaine Hoste had like to have bin sent in hir, but it seemes heaven preserves him for atcheevements betwene Petworth and Chichester."

The Same to the Same.

1636, July 8. The *Triumph*—"I am glad to heare of your health, but you write seldome; you write as if you writ for mony as somme doe, and that you could not afforde more unlesse we payde more, your last was the 27th of June and now it is the 8th of July. Since we left the west we have bin here in the Downes, where we have had very fowle weather and it is as likely to continue as if it were winter. Soe soone as we have provided somme necessaries we shall goe to the herring fishing; you never eate sutch herrings as we shall have there, nor never shall unlesse you take the paines for them that we doe. Wat Stuart is returned hither yesterday safe from Spaine; he saw noe fleete nor ship of France, and well it was for them, he came lustily provided, with excellent bombarbs, noe taper bored guns, all fortified peeces; foure and twenty Spanish woemen. By them the Frentch have had a defeate in Naples, and may againe. There is a Grande of Spaine, the Marquis of Miravil, who is to goe to the Infanta Cardinall, he is to be in the place of the Marquis d'Aytona;

That I may not be ungratefull to you for the verses you sent me I send you a poeme of a westerne gentlewoman, but descended from the Greeke Emperors; I hope she is honest, but hir kindred if she be comme from them, were as little to be bragged of for theire honestyes as any race of kings that ever were. I had allmost forgot to tell you that there came to the fleete two or three boates full of gentlewoemen, who were invited aboard a ship, and feasted and danced all day; it was hardly a day for men to goe abroad, yet did they not only comme but in theire best cloathes, as English chambermaydes are wont to doe when they ride a journey. Before they could get to the shore they were wet to the skinne with raine; and as they went out of the boate, it being the worst place in England to land at, and the sea beate soe against the shoare that the boates did sinke after they were out, they were wet by the waves of the sea as farre as they were forked. That day came six or seaven wenches of the cuntry aboard this ship and by fowle weather were kept here two dayes, there came three or fowre men with them that tooke great care of theire mayden heads but you know the Spanish saying or you may now know it, *Madre la mi Madre, guardas mi poneis, ma se yo no mi guardo, mal mi guardereys.* I am at the end of my matter whitch you may see I have drawne out as the divell did his partchment with his teeth when he writ the discourse of the two woemen that were talking at churtch, and bycause that letters, candles, and mens lives, cannot last beyond their *humidum radicale.*"

The Same to [the Same].

1636, July 14. The *Triumph*. The Downs—"If you write often we receive slowly, and I complaine of you unjustly. I can with more confidence aske your pardon, bycause there is whereof you are to aske mine; you shew my letters, I send you virgins and you prostitute them, not that my Lady of Northumberland sees them or my Lady of Salisbury, for my letters are fæminine, weake; but you shew them to my Lord Deputy, peradventure to other statesmen; they when I thinke I am fooling, will thinke I am foolish. Would you weare sutch a feather as you did when you went with my Lord of Northumberland to Windesore, when you are goeing to talke with your scriveners; every thing hath his fit time, at the beginning of dinner you must say noething, at the latter end talke like a bagpipe; they that have nothing to doe, that is that are under government, may laugh and make verses, for they have noething else to doe. The Lord Chancellor, St Albans, sayth that the great leisure and want of busines, brought forth in the monkes those subtiltyes, that for theire fine spinning are like spiders webs, and fit to be swept away; mirth is oposite to seriousnes as levity is to gravity. Laughter in the face of a statesman is like a cat in my Lord Cromwell's breeches, and a paper of verses in his pocket is an abhomination like a pigge in a Jewes poke. All things in heaven and under the moone keep theire order, the starres goe not out of theire spheares, and the elements keepe theire places; doe you likewise in the shewing my letters keepe within due limits; let the reader be adaquated to the writing; let unlaughing statesmen reade history bound to sutch rigid laws in heigth of stile and weight of sentences, that it would not suffer the Florentine historiographer, to relate in tearmes which would possibly suffer one to laugh, how an Italian Countesse tooke up hir cloathes to hir middle, a like grave relation being made by Justine of a capriccious condemnation of certaine runawayes in a battaile that theire wives should lye atop and they under untill they had recovered theire credits;

But you that will not goe an uneasy journey but easily may, well not desire asperity in anything, therefore I laugh to you in a storme, and will to in the relation of our fight with the Dutch, if my mouth be not shot away like that of Captaine Jukes, and I pray let noe body see my letter but she that loves to heare a proper new ballade of a lamentable story to a merry new tune; and let not my letters goe out of your hand unlesse it be into the fire, who is the frend I only trust with all the secrets written to me; for allthough I know not very well what to speake, I know very well what not to speake; And now Sir I will make bolde to request a curtesy of you; a Holland ship of warre came hithir; according to instructions the Admirall sent aboard them among other enquiries to know what Englishmen were there that we might have them to serve the King; eleven were brought and the Dutch Captaine came with them; in my Lord of Northumberland's cabbin they were at least an hower disputing what was due of their pay from the captaine to these mariners, to one a Scotch highlander that had bin silent peradventure bycause he would not have it knowne, the captaine sayde he was to decompte what he had payed the chirurgion for curing him of a plague sore as big as the palme of his hand, and Dutch hands and Dutch feete are not wont to be of the least; the man sayde the surgeon had not yet cured him; the Captaine sayde he might doe well enough, he should have plaisters with him; now my request to you is that you would goe to the Pest house, provide two good chambers for my Lord of Northumberland and me, two carefull keepers, and a good phisitian, and assure your selfe if any other then well should happen you shall heare of it with all speede; I have given order that at every poste this letter should be carefully ayred by the fire, and soe I will doe during the quarantana.

On Tuesday we goe to the herring fishing and then we shall see what tennis players the Dutch are. I hope our balles and our rackets will be better then theirs."

The Same to the Same.

1636, July 18. The *Triumph*—"Tomorrow the nineteenth of July we set forward to make the Dutch comment upon Mr. Selden's *Mare Clausum*. Doctor Northumberland would gladly have first done it in frentch but things must be as they may. I hope before long it shall be done in all languages even Danish and the Sweden Goth. Here is yesterday a Dunkerke freebooter comme in that hath bin in the northerne seas, and for want of better prise, to helpe to pay his charges he tooke a herring busse; he presented us with a smalle barrell, and desired a warrant from my Lord that noe body should take any from him by cause many boates came aboard him and every one sayde 'A luttel haaring, a luttle haaring; a luttel haaring.' Is it not a strange thinge that it should be æquity for a man to demand justice to keepe that whitch he hath taken away by violence. If I had not forgotten it in my last letter I had made a complaint to you whitch is now brought into my memory by an aggravation yesterday; we have had five or six sermons that have even starved our soules. The boldnes of the ship ministers and the importunity of theire captaines have not suffered us to heare Mr. Faggard above twice; if we had bin fed as we have bin taught, we should have returned with spirituall bodyes, and fleshly soules; I am called upon for my letter, Mr. Smith I heare knocking, sealing my Lord's letters."

WILLIAM, BISHOP OF KILMORE to CORNELIUS SHIRIDEN.

1636, July 26. Kilmore—A controvérsial letter. *In Latin.*

The letter is headed. "To one of many Irish converts, I will set down one letter of many, written to one of the learnedst of them in a convincing and winning style."

The Letter is addressed "To my loving brother Mr. Cohenaght O. Shiriden."

VISCOUNT CONWAY and KILULTA to [GEORGE] GARRARD.

1636, August 15. From sea, before Scarborough—"You expect from me a relation of our northern voyage, but the newes that we shall have another moneths victualls soe soone as we comme into the Downes, puts me in disorder that, like the late Marquis of Winchester the first night he was married, I doe not know at whitch end to begin. I did hope to have seene you in September, but now I think we must conquer the great Turke first. Since we went from the Downes we have not seene one whole faire day; what we went for we have done. You have had your desire, we have had a battaile and noe hurte done; we shot one day soe many canon that the noyse in blowing up of the Parliament house would have bin but bastard brother to it. We tooke a Dutch Captaine prisoner and he wept like the Count de Auvergne's mistris when she heard that he was taken prisoner; and yet he had a face like the shield of the Red crosse knight wherein old dints of deepe woundes did remaine, though he perdy did never fight in fielde, for I beleave he got the long slash from his forehead to his chin at stick or snee with a skipper. We parted with him fairely and met him afterwards againe, and then he brought all his busses to us, and sayde the chaine by whitch he led them was that the admirall was a good man and would use them kindly; and to let us see that he was an hidalgo he put on his best cloathes and a band. For conclusion we have, as conquerors leave garnisons in the townes they take, left three ships for the guarde of that sea whitch they will longer preserve then the Spaniards theire conquests in France, or the Frentch theires in Italy. But I have not yet spoken of a principall parte of our adventures according to the proverbe, one cannot eat his cake and have his cake. Our provisions growing short Captaine Hoste was sent to Edinburgh, but we did not finde it here as betwene Petworth and Chichester from whence the returne is certaine let the wind blow how it will; all the diligence we could use coulde not bring us together untill all our victualls were spent, and all the linnen was fowle. Mr. Dowse that was the oldest man in the company and knowes the way to doe well better then young folke, wished himselfe in your belly; but allthough one may be a glutton in wishing, one cannot fill his belly with wishing. That you may not grieve to mutch for us, our extremity was but like my Lord of Leicester's in the Low Cuntries, that dranke wine for want of beere and eat pyecrust for want of bread. What relation Captaine Hoste makes of Scotland you shall have from his owne mouth, when you meete him in his gowne and staffe of office at Dorset Howse gate; only this I will say from him, he thinkes Edinburgh a very fine towne but as he is a philosopher he thinks there is noething every way perfect. We are all in good health; we have no plague among us nor pox; he that had the plague was turned out, and it is now since allmost two quarantanees he that had the pox is cured."

The Same to the Same.

1636, August 23. The Downs. The *Triumph*—"The salutation of the Genoveses is *Sanita et guadagno;* with these two doe we returne, and yet I have not told you all the Dutch and Spanish fleetes have met us and payde us as mutch curtesy as Jhon Dorye did to the good King Jhon of Francea. It was well they did, for we should have swinged the Dutch allthough we were but ten ships and they twenty, for we thinke we may give them as mutch oddes at fighting as you are able to give a reasonable gamester at bowles. It was well the Spanish did by cause they were six and twenty great ships and there was but one ship of our fleete, but since it was neither love nor justice that made them give to Cæsar that whitch belonged to him, I beleave it was for feare of the second course in whitch the English put theire trust. Here we are now in the Downes, in health, with as mutch mony as was to be found, and with as mutch honour as this market would afforde. Having dispatcht all our busines for ought we know, we are ready to comme home, and ready to goe againe if we must take in another moneths victualls as they threaten. If it be soe, your good company whitch I did hope to have had in September will be differred untill October; I thanke you for the promise you make that my eares shall chew the cud upon what your mouth eates at Oxford, I shall expect that letter as a principall regalo."

The Same to the Same.

1636, September 13. The Downs. The *Triumph*—"I thanke you for the relation of the Oxford entertainment and not only I but all others that have seene it.

You are pleased to make your selfe merry with me in saying that you would print my letter. If you meane spightfully you can doe me noe hurte, for he onely thinkes himselfe hurte by having his follies published that thinkes himselfe fit to pretend to wisedome, whitch I utterly disclaime, as Sergeant Hitcham did his title to the crowne; but if you intend me a favour, doe it not, for I have not found any great honour given to bookes of Epistles: Tullie's are blotted by schoole boyes, the Greeke Epistles, Senecae's and Plinye's, the workes of great wits, or they were themselves deceived, are now only looked on by critiques that hunt after wordes and phrases, and by them corrupted with theire emendations. Guenara was longer writing of a letter then his countryman Tostatus was a booke, as we may guesse by the youth of the one and his number of workes, and by the profession of the other to have tumbled over all his bookes for the answeare of a letter; yet are not his letters taken as patternes to write by, as the lines of old statues are taken for just proportions by the moderne statuaries. The Italians are more copious then any nation in these kind of bookes and they onely fit to be employed in that use that Gaulard did bestowe his letters; the conceits of theire cheefe wit Aretine are like great pillars and statues hardly to be removed without breaking. If the Cardinals Offat and Perron had not traces of history in theire letters they might goe into the fire with Balzac who is only thought well of by those that love wordes and hardly matter to upholde them; but he is a fit writer for a frentchman as a citterne is the fittest instrument for a barber. My letters to you are privat assurances of my love and to you onely particular, not epistles generall, and even those writings that begin with Be it knowne unto all men, are not to be shewen in course before the bond be forfeited, and the promises I make to you and my letters binde I assure my selfe I

shall not forfeit. But let me now accuse you with breatch of promise, whitch you ought to have kept, since every honest man is as good as his worde; you sayde you would send me a bagge full of nuts. You can not excuse it for want of conveniency to send; you might have sent a tonne full by the hoyes that doe now bring us a moneths victualls more, with whitch we must againe goe to the herring fishing at Yarmouth. We are like to have a sad journey for my Lord of Northumberland hath discharged the fidlers. This day our physitian is to leave us, of whom we have not had any neede this journey, but the other night Robin Williams was very sicke, but that whitch killed the Duke of Biron, cured Robin Williams; the surgeon recovered him with a backe blowe. Captaine Hoste, that noble knight errant, without whose helpe Robin Williams would be a Jacke without plummets, as without Robin Williams, Captaine Hoste would labour in vaine, had the other night a disastrous adventure, three shillings was stolen out of his pocket, and a bande out of his trunke; the theefe was found and dukt at the maine yeard, and now the to late provident captaine layes his breeches under his heade. I beleave by the end of this weeke we shall set saile for Yarmouth, and when we have seene what is to be done there *Tempora si numeras bene quæ numeramus*, you will thinke it long till you see my Lord of Northumberland and me."

Postscript. "If it be lawfull to profane that most excellent Lady in this paper tell my Lady of Northumberland that I am hir most humble servant."

Radnorshire.

1636, September 13—Order made at the Quarter Sessions held at New Radnor by Sir Marmaduke Lloyd and Walter Rumsey for the relief of the poor inhabitants of Presteign who were suffering grievously from the plague. *Copy.*

Richard Jones, Hugh Lewes, and other Justices of the Peace of Radnorshire to Sir Robert Harley, John Vaughan, and others, Justices of the Peace of Herefordshire.

1636, September 14. New Radnor—Enclosing a copy of the preceding order.

Sir Richard Strode to his "sister," Dame Martha Button, at Parkgate.

1636, September 21. Chalmington—As our business cannot be done to your contentment and my father's, as I desire it should be, give me leave to ask that you and our daughter would be at Mr. Maynard's house on Tuesday, where I purpose to be, with all things fitting for the work, and to provide you better lodging and entertainment at my father's house than you had last time, and then, if you see cause, you may send for Mr. Beare. And when all the doubts and fears, that any bear may bring unto you to get large fees, are past, then I shall have the advantage by it of clearing myself from dishonest dealing with you. *Signet. At the bottom is written in another hand.* All proved false.

John Vaughan to his cousin, Sir Robert Harley.

1636, September 23. Hergest—Appointing a meeting at Pembridge relative to an assessment for the benefit of those afflicted by the plague at Presteign. *Signet.*

Sir Robert Harley and John Vaughan to John Price, of the Combe.

1636, September 24. Pembridge—On the same business as the preceding letter. *Copy.*

Sir Robert Harley and John Vaughan to the Justices of the Peace in Radnorshire.

1636, September 24. Pembridge—On the same business. *Copy.* *This and the preceding letter are on the same sheet.*

Presteign.

1636, September 24. Pembridge—Assessment for the poor afflicted by the plague at Presteign in the hundreds of Wigmore, Stretford, Wolphey, and Huntington. *Copy.*

John Price to the Petty Constable of Stapleton.

1636, September 24. Combe—Order to collect the assessment in his township for the poor of Presteign, dated at Burford, November 29th. *Signed.*

On the back is an endorsement by Sir Gilbert Cornwall, that he had perused the statute and found that if the poor go abroad from the town, no money was to be paid; and being assured that they go abroad with the plague upon them he would give nothing.

Herefordshire.

1636, October 4. Hereford—Order made by Sir John Kyrle, Sir Robert Harley, Sir Richard Hopton and Sir Walter Pye, Justices, for the relief of the poor of Presteign. *Copy.*

Viscount Conway and Kilulta to [George] Garrard.

1636, October 6. Yarmouth Road. The *Triumph*—"Allthough we have lived long in this place of honour where our patience hath brought us thorough stormes, our diligence hath taken many a herring busse, and our curtesy hath made them thanke us for our good usage allthough we tooke theire mony from them; yet as all things under the moone have an end, and the moone that causeth it in many things must hir selfe find one, soe our stay here will not now be long. We are in Yarmouth roade and expect every hower when we shall receive dismission, I beleave we shall see the King at Newmarket, from thence we shall goe to Quicksot where I should be very glad if you would meete. You may comme in my Lord's coatch or if he have noe coatch take your bootes from the pinne where you intended they should hang untill next yeare, send for a horse from grasse, and meete us, or if you please send for my coatch and comme in that. If you have not a will to meete, you have noe great desire to see us, for naturall motions are most violent in the end, and partings of frends are the beginnings of comming againe together."

JAMES PRYCE and others Justices of the Peace in Radnorshire to SIR ROBERT HARLEY, JOHN VAUGHAN of Hergest, and the rest of the Justices of the Peace in Herefordshire.

1636, December 19. Dolley—Certificate of the state of Presteign. *Signet.*

DOCTOR COOTE.

1637, April 9—A statement by Nathaniel Harrison, Curate of Montgomery, of the refusal of Doctor Coote, Parson of Montgomery to administer the Holy Communion to Mr. Richard Griffith of Sutton and his family on Easter Day. *Signed.*

VISCOUNT CONWAY and KILULTA to his brother[-in-law], SIR ROBERT HARLEY.

1637, April 21. London—"I am glad to heare that you are in health, we are heere after the olde manner, marrying and giving or rather stealing in mariadge, for my Lord Andover hath lately marryed Mrs. Dorothy Savadge contrary to his father's liking and his protestations to him, but *Si violandum est jus* it was to be done for hir; we must leave father and mother and cleave to our mistresse. My Lord Russell is shortly to marry my Lady Anne Carre all things being agreed on. There have bin great rumors of warres, a league being treated betweene France and us for the recovery of the Palatinate, but I beleave it will not have the effect that we desire, soe that there will be noe warre but betwene the Bishops and the Puritans whitch growes very hot by bookes written by Bastweeke and Burton and somme other namelesse men, the Bishop of Lincolne being becomme an auxiliary by an answeare of his, as is supposed, to *The Coale from the Altar.* There is yet another booke comme out entituled *The Christian Altar;* and yesterday was a booke burned, it was a translation and conteined many Popish pointes; it was licenced by Heywood, complained on by the Archbishop; and now you have all the newes of *Bellum Grammaticale.*"

JOHN POWELL and others, Justices of the Peace in Radnorshire to SIR ROBERT HARLEY and JOHN VAUGHAN, of Hergest and the other Justices of the Peace in Herefordshire.

1637, May 22. Norton—Concerning the state of Presteign.

VISCOUNT CONWAY and KILULTA to [GEORGE] GARRARD.

1637, June 22. The Downs. The *Triumph*—"Letters have comme hither twice or thrice from the Court, once from the Captaine, and yet noe newes of you, but I say not this to reproatch you, neither doe I send this as a koye ducke to bring letters in that would not else finde the way, for I knowe that my Lord of Canterbury and my Lord Cottington, my Lady of Northumberland and my Lady of Salisbury, Mrs. Blague and Mrs. Wright, the bowling greene and the kitchin, jacke and the cookes, sermon, and dinner, have appointed and limited times, therefore I looke for my share of you. We lay in the Hope somme dayes expecting a winde to bring us out of the river; there we had the choice of all the fish that went to London, macarel, soales, plaice, fresh herring, better farre then at London, and it were mutch better goeing

thither to eate fish then to Guilford, as the citizens doe, to make merry. In our stay here there came to us an errant damoyselle and a knight, the knight was in blacke the lady in fowle linnen, the knights complexion was like a ladyes, the ladyes was like a knights; they should have gone over in a Dutch hoye with their horses, but they got one of our ships; the lady went one day one shoare, eat a sillybub and jumped over a ditch. When the winde was faire we set saile and passing along the river on the sandes; on either hand saw the remaines of ships that had made more haste then good speede. There is a marriner in this fleete that being this yeare, immediatly before he came hither, in a ship that traded to the Canaries, in that wide ocean, the ship being over set, all were drowned but he that got upon the bottome of the ship as she lay overturned in the sea, and by another ship was by strange accident taken up; but for all these sad sights and stories I hope to see you this winter carving a goose with garlicke, and smiling upon a dish of broiled woodcockes. If I stay by the way in my relation it is but as we did in our voyage; the winde was contrary, whitch made us often cast anchor, and our slow comming into the Downes gave leave to the people of Dover and the country to assemble on the shoare side to see my Lord of Northumberland comme in. The ships that were here with Sir Jhon Pennington when my Lord came to them bid him wellcomme according to the curtesy of the sea with theire guns; he, when the captaines came to him bid them wellcomme with excellent good cheare. Since our comming hither we have had very faire weather, Mr. Faggard hath not bin sicke at all and is as valiant at the shooting of canon as Æsop's frogs were with the king Jupiter gave them, who did but fright them at first comming, or as one would be if it thundered.

Mr. Dowse is in very good health and soe you would sweare if you heard him but talke, allthough you did not see him; he gives out mony at the birth of his first childe to be payed fowre for one; heretofore he desired a widowe that with hir he might get a coatch and fowre horses, but now he will have a young wentch that he may have a childe. I know not what it is that hath turned his affections from widowes, but certainly he is mutch displeased with them, for he sayth that they will continue longer stinking with a man than a young wentch will continue sweete.

By a ship that is comme from Bilboa we heare that Captaine Rainsborough hath taken fiveteene ships of Turks. The Dutch fleete with theire Admirall Dorpe is about Portland; the Spanish fleete is every day expected, but I beleave the Dutch will looke out how not to meete with them. I pray commend my most humble service to my Lady of Northumberland and my Lady of Salisbury, and tell my Lady Elisabeth that to see hir is better than any fight I can see at land, or at sea, or that Galileo with his perspective can see in heaven."

Postscript by the Earl of Northumberland. "My Lord Conwaye's providence in prepareing a letter before hand hath given him this advantage over me, but shall find none more readie or willing to serve you then. A. Northumberland."

The Same to the Same.

1637, July 4. Dover Road. The *Triumph*—"I received your letter not halfe soe long as my Lord Duke of Buckingham's epitaph, but you have promised a long one, and you doe not use to breake your worde. We have conveyed the Prince Elector into Holland and are returned in safety. You see now I could write as laconikely as you and

make my letter noe longer then the tale of the butcher and the calfe. But laying aside all malice; the Prince Elector had appointed his times soe as to comme from Canterbury hither to dinner; therefore my Lord of Northumberland, that never made any fault in all his life, although the day were extreame windy and the water very rough would not offend against curtesy but went on shoare to meete him, that we were very wet when the Prince came; the countenance of the water was sutch that it was thought best to dine at Deale and stay untill the anger of the sea were appeased. Whether we did dine there or noe is not well knowne, for there were soe many men and soe few dishes, soe little meat and soe many handes upon it, soe little worke to doe and sutch ernest desires to dispatch it, that our eares that heard talke of hunger after dinner would not suffer our eyes to beleave they had seene any meate that day. The afternoone was spent in seeing the country people tumble over one another striving to ketch the sixpences whitch were throwne among them not for charity but that they might hurte one another and overthrow the woemen with baskets of eggs and chickens. There were a great number of country gentlewoemen that came to see the Prince; he was curteous and kist them all; they prayed for him; indeed they were most of them fitter to say theire prayers then to kisse.

Towardes evening the winde grew calme and the Princes went on shipboard; they were noe sooner on the sea but they grew ill, therefore they went to theire owne ship. Much good company came to my Lord of Northumberland, where was all the good cheere that England France and Flanders could affoord. What was wanting at dinner was taken out at supper, and it is a greater and a truer miracle how soe mutch meate should be dreast in one ship then any the Papists bragge of. The next day we set saile and my Lord of Northumberland dined with the Prince; what entertainment he had you may guesse if you please. He dined with a Prince that was feasted by a King. We saw him goe safe into Goerée gat, looke in the map where that is. I would tell you why Mr. Faggard would have gone with them into Holland and why he did not, but Mr. Cartwright will not stay nor hardly give me leave to commend my most humble service to my Lady of Northumberland, my Lady of Salisbury and my Lady Elisabeth; I say my Lady Elisabeth for there is none like hir."

The Same to the Same.

1637, July 10. The Downs. The *Triumph*—"The last letter I writ to you was the one halfe written in the darke. I was tolde the packet should not goe untill the morning, therefore I went to supper and was forced afterward to make a hasty pudding of it, and to leave out divers things very remarkeable, among the rest a letter of the Mayor of Sandwitch whitch I now send you. I would then allso have tolde you that my Lord of Carnarvon comming from supper where meate and drinke was noething scarce; as sayth the songe, goeing into the cabbin whitch was as good a roome and wherein was as good a bed in whitch he was to lye as any he could have one shoare, from thence into the gallery where he had the prospect of a great fleete a cleere skye and a calme sea, he swore there was noe soe happy life as to live in sutch a ship and reade romances, but by God's blood he would have three whoores. I thinke I sayd noething to you of Mr. Faggard's travailes into Holland from whitch he was put by the tide whitch would have bin spent that the Prince could not have gotten over the bar if my Lord of Northumberland had stayed him with a visite, and Mr. Faggard durst not be

slung into a boate nor goe in with the ketch; but since our returne hither he hath travailed into France, and that he might goe free from boyes or the Inquisition, he put himselfe into a scarlet suite, a night raile band, a sugarloafe hat with a galan in the hat band, a frentch belt, a sword with a hilte *a la occasion*, bootes *a la mode*, a cane in his hand. We called him Captaine Faggard, but when he came to Callis, comming in with a trompet, a great traine, and being principal verbe they called him my Lord; the Governor was very civill to them, invited them to dinner, but they would not goe; they made complaint to him that the ketch in whitch they came was robbed of halfe a cheese; he promised if he could finde the men had done them the injury he would stop theire throates in sutch manner as they should never swallow more English cheese. In Mr. Faggard's absence there was one of the ship whose father had bin a Parliament man, and he thorough suretiship reduced to bisket and fourteene shillings a moneth, undertooke to be subchaplaine, but noe heretique did ever soe abuse the Bible, nor Thomas Sternhold and Jhon Hopkins the Psalmes, as he did by false pointing. When he came to the prayer for the King, thinking the prayer to short to shew his goodwill, his zeale carried him soe farre that he is not yet comme backe; he did quite alter the booke of common prayer, and we were forced by reverence to it to stay from it. Before this the gentleman, the good pen man to whom you writ, is with you; he hath left us to our griefe, for where soever he is, he is an ornament to the place, but here his head did ake and his belly did swell, soe he is gone to change of pasture; but that you may not loose all your longing I send you a short letter of his intended for a lady. Now I must make the same request to you that you did to me; cast your eye upon his actions, if any thing happen worth your observance doe not hide it. The other night in came a poste with two great blacke boxes. We judged them presently to be licences, and our hartes grew as colde as a Bashawes that sees a man with a blacke box and a bow string. If you are not acquainted with Turkish manners or theire story enquire of Sir Paul Pindar; but allthough they were licences for the Dutch herring fishers yet were they to be sent by one ship, soe that I beleave they will not be unwilling to take them. Two ships are goeing to Captaine Rainsborough to Sally. The weather hath bin very bad theise ten dayes. Captaine Oast is in good health, I pray let me know how Robbin Williams doth. Captaine Fletcher will recover and have the use of his broken legge very well the surgeons say, but his ankle bones are shot away. Now Sir I have done jesting I pray commend my most humble service to my Lady of Northumberland, my Lady of Salisbury, and my Lady Elisabeth. You were pleased to make an answeare to me as if it came from hir, but you might have done me more favour to have wished me fowre and twenty rather then my sonne, and if he had bin an obstacle you might have wisht him gone with my yeares; I would have gotten another."

The Same to the Same.

1637, July 17. The Downs. The *Triumph*—"If my affection were not greater then my wisedome I should not now write, for we have noe matter, and out of nothing commes nothing you know, both as you are a master of artes and a frend to philosophers, and as you are a good man, that is have mony to lend, and are an acquaintance of Mr. Holman's; but what I shall be short in, this enclosed shall make amends for me, whitch I esteame one of the best peeces hath bin written in English since the death of the last Lord Chancelor Bacon. From the

time we returned from the coast of Holland to this day we have had but one day that we could walke upon the decke, continuall winde or raine, and now it blowes as hard as at any time; this is noe laughing matter espetially for them that have leaky cabbins. I would we had Doctor Turner here to cure the sky of this collicke and dropsye, for he is not only a doctor that can doe wonders as he thinkes and I beleave, but is a heavenly man as you and all other tobaccoe takers that know him may safely sweare. I hope that we shall be at home in September, but I hoped last yeare and we were sent to eat fresh herrings, yet this yeare I am induced to hope againe; for we are not commanded to goe any whither, neither doth there appeare any likelyhood of any exploite to be done, therefore I hope the biscuit we now have will terminate our voyage. I am sorry for the newes you write of Mr. Nevill's sicknesse for the love of Mrs. Harrison; when the world was in infancy and ignorant there were men that died for love, little phisicke being knowne either for that or any other disease, but now the remedy is soe well knowne that none dy for love, but it must be used before one be in a burning feaver as he is. You are pleased to say that I remember my Lady Elizabeth with a quicker line then the rest, but I cannot finde it doth me any more good for the great complement you made your selfe; I pray commend my most humble service to my Lady of Northumberland, let me know whitch brest is biggest, and whether Mrs. Tassel can be with hir. Commend my most humble service to my Lady of Salisbury, allthough she doe not envy me for my little cabbin yet she might pitty me; tell my Lady Elisabeth that I am hir most humble servant, but let me know what she sayth, for I beleave that hir speatch will be as mutch beyond yours as hir face is."

The Same to the Same.

1637, July 24. The Downs. The *Triumph*—"I pray send hither Sir Jhon Suckling's play, and I begin with this request that you may the better remember it, and least I should forget it. It seemes you thinke my letter was fraught with smalle wares hardly fit for sutch a marchant as you are. Would you be medling in State matters? Doe not you remember you burnt your papers, upon feare of comming before the Councell table. Doe you think the Mayor of Sandwiche's letter is a sleight matter, and doe you begin yours with the price of oates, and end it with your horse keeper; doe you in your next to me make your selfe merry with somme of the Lordes of the Councell and Courts of Justice, I will make you a returne with the rest. If we will be merry we must keepe our selves within the fowre seas; abroad there is noe sutch thing to be found as cause of mirth unlesse you are like Nero that laughed to see Rome on fire. The Prince of Orange hath besieged Breda; if you are a frend to the Spaniard you will sigh, for it is twenty to one it will be lost. The Admirall Dorpe is before Dunkerke with fiveteene ships, but they have noe victualls and all theire men are sicke of the scurvy; if you are of the Dutch faction you will lament. The Frentch are burning the country, and ravishing the woemen in Artois. Soe soone as Picolhuomini commes there shall be as many, cuckolds made in France. The Turke is attempting upon Poland; Captaine Rainborough is subjugating the Turke. Here is a ship comme from the East Indyes sayth there are as many quarrels there, and soe soone as the West India company is erected thither shall the sword and fire be carried. And now that I have let you knowe the newes of this worlde I send you Mr. Faggard to tell you newes of the other worlde. I pray commend my most humble service to my Lady of Northumber-

land, my Lady of Salisbury, and my Lady Elisabeth, and my Lady Stretton, and tell hir that every promise is either broken or kept, but if she had kept hirs I had given hir a proverbe instead of this by worde. Farewell, bestowe a cover upon your letters for your paper is soe thinne and your waxe soe subtile that it goes thorough. Make mutch of your selfe and feare not eating of fruite, for the Indian ship hath furnished us with greene ginger to correct the crudityes and heat the stomakes of all our olde acquaintance; Mrs. Eleonor may have a littie pot if it please hir."

The Same to the Same.

1637, July 31. The Downs, The *Triumph*—"Why doe you make a question of writing when you have noething to write. Archimedes would have removed the worlde out of his place, if one could have given him a place to stand on out of the world. The physition is happy that commes in the end of a disease. Great statesmen that are held in estimation for theire wisedome most commonly attaine to it by having busines prepared, for they make the worke noe more than a midwife makes the child. But that man is to be praysed that lives by his wits. Barbarossa that from a slave raysed himselfe to be King of Argier deserves more honour then Alexander that came to be a man of worship by the stocke his frends left him; therefore be a loving spider and write from your owne fancy. But you are goeing into another country where we shall be forgotten. And why goe you thither? They are noe bowlers, you are noe falconer, the journey is long, you love your ease, it can not be for pure goodwill, then would you have bin with us; here you are as mutch beloved, and the melons grew at Hanworth; and now that I thinke on the melons I must thanke you for wishing them here, as allso the fat stagge and all the other good things whitch you say you wish with us but eat your selfe. Concerning wishes I will tell you a tale; the Prince of Orange who dyed last,—observing how that the Duke of Simeren when newes came to the Haghe of the severall townes in the Palatinate being taken by the Spanish forces, did wish that he had them againe, asked him if he should take a wish of ten thousand poundes in one hand and a f—— in the other of whitch should he have most. But if you would have gone any farther then wishes the play booke would have endured cariadge, and allthough it be none of yours, you might have stollen it; both your conscience and ours would have endured it; a seaman, an usurer, and a thiefe put into a bagge when they comme out, a thiefe commes first; but if it be not a seeond play we neede it not. I doe easily beleave that your beauty was great in your youth and that men did make love to you, and for that now I can onely say *Quantum mutatus ab illo Ganimede?* How ever I doe yet thinke soe well of your face, but mistake me not, my love to you is onely platonike, that there are not many faces I had rather see then yours. When you are with Mr. Popham desire him that you may see a trout taken in his garden and let it be drest hot for your supper. Captaine Fielding is returned from the Dutch herring fishers and hath brought noe pikled herring. In his returne hearing many peeces of canon he steered that way and saw eleven Dunkerke fregats and two ships in fight with a Holland ship of warre. Three Holland ships that night have disengaged hir, put out theire colours of defyance and ranne away. Before Captaine Fielding could comme in the Dutch ship sanke, the captaine standing on the poope brandishing his sworde over his head untill the water came up to his neck; all were drowned. The fregates when they saw the English ship,

tooke in theire flags and went to seeke new adventures. I send you two letters, excellent ones, there are three more in the ship, but I could not get them; I have looked in the almanack and finde that I may have two letters from you before the fourteenth of August, I doe extreamely mutiny against your leaving Hatfield, but I must have patience for you are resolute Jhon Florio. I had written thus farre and was laying the last stone of the building when my Lord of Northumberland called me to supper; afterward sitting in the cabbin and discoursing of your smock canvas, according to your direction Mr. Dowse was demanded what his knowledge was of that matter, he sayth that you were at his comming to Oxford twenty yeares olde at whitch age he thinkes a man doth not retaine mutch beauty, but for your acquaintance with woemen, that you were a tabator shut up by the fellowes of the howse into the library, and were made often to stande by the bel, soe that you could not goe mutch abroad, and he sweares before God he thinkes you knew noe other woman then your tutor's landresse; I would have had him abated somme what of this severity but he vowes to dye in the trueth. But for himselfe he sayth he was an Adonis and chosen to leade the measures before the Queene. Here is now a ship comme from Spaine, while I write this hir guns are goeing of, that hath admirable tobaccoe and your parte lyes thereine; this is better then I wish you a melon, I wish you a fat stag, I wish you Mrs. Whinnyeard."

The Same to the Same.

1637, August 25. Plymouth Road. The *Triumph*—" If in your progresse you went into a howse when it rayned and stayed there for faire weather according to Mr. Dowse his laudible custome and your wise determination to follow it, I beleave you are not yet at your journeyes end. We heare that the winde and raine is noe lesse on land then it is here with us, yet there they hunt, here the fishermen can hardly sometimes get out, soe that we have not eaten any mullets since we came hither and but one turbut; and unlesse my Lord be mercyfull to us we are like to suffer more in the provisions of the land; for Captaine Oast hath a great desire in good ernest to be captaine of a pinnace; his well willers wish him to request a better but his modesty sayth, Noe sure a pinnace is faire to begin with; but indeede I know noe reason since one lordes cooke was made a knight why this lordes caterer may not be made a captaine. There was a great quarrell betwene Simson and the captaines man who came into the kitchin and troubled Simson and was by him flung down a paire of staires, for whitch the captaine would have had Simson in the bilboes, but who should have dressed dinner? you would not have bin of that opinion, noe more was I, and my Lord was as wise as either of us both. Did not a noble Prince recommending his frend say If his cause be just, favour him for Justice sake, if unjust for my sake. Could lesse be sayde for Simson? Was not the quarrelling with him like the apologue of the members of the body quarrelling with the belly? but Simson had the right on his side. There are more quarrells like to be, and you will shortly heare newes of them. The good pen man hath begun with the head of this Church flotant fiercer then Luther with the. Pope I should be glad to doe any thing that might please the Lady whitch you writ was displeased by cause I did not abuse hir, but indeed I doe reverence age and doe more willingly abuse a young wentch. Your share in the tobaccoe you neede not doubt. Mr. Douse did buy a whole rowle and sayde he ment to give away the one halfe, peradventure you may have it all. I send you for

want of better ballast to this light stuffe of mine owne a petition, and the same scribe is to frame Captaine Oast his petition for the command of the pinnace. Be sure to be backe by the tenth of September, it will not be civilly sayde but soe it is that I had rather you should stay at Hatfield or Syon three dayes for us then that I should be one day without you."

Postscript. "We have heard how that you missed Mrs. Clare's lips in your progres, and lighted upon a loyne of mutton and Gooddy Whatchiecallum at Sion."

The Council of Scotland to the King.

1637, August 25. Edinburgh—Informing him of their willingness to assist in establishing the Service Book, but regretting their inability to do anything further in the matter, owing to the grudge and murmurs of all sorts of people against it. *Copy. On the same sheet is a paper entituled,* "The Scotts reasons against the Service Booke."

Adam Littleton to Sir Robert Harley, at Brampton.

1637, August 28. Ludlow—Thanking him for a fat buck from Wigmore Park. *Signet.*

Herefordshire.

1637, August—A list of the poor in the parish of Eardisland (Earsland) who were in receipt of relief, numbering a hundred and forty at the least.

A list of the landowners in the same parish including John Coates, Esq. owner of the manor of Burton.

Sampson Eure to his kinsman, Sir Robert Harley.

1637, September 19. Ludlow Castle—On business. *Signet.*

Sir Robert Cooke to his cousin, Sir Robert Harley, at Brampton.

1637, October 12. Rancombe—On business. Mentions his brother Balle. *Signet.*

Sampson Eure to Sir Robert Harley, at Brampton.

1637, October 14. Grays Inn—I received by the carrier your authority to pass the decree for Bringwood, Mocktree, and Dornold. I can give you the assurance that you shall have Burrington for 540*l.*

John Tolson [Provost of Oriel College, Oxford] to Sir Robert Harley, at Brampton.

1637, October 23—It is long since we have seen one another, but not so long as that we should forget the mutual respect and familiarity between us when you were a student of our college and a pupil of the famous Mr. Owen. By his son I have taken the opportunity of renewing that which time might wear out. By him you will understand the state of our college, your old decayed mother, not likely to have held out long. If you were a present spectator you could not discern a face of that of which you have an idea. We have ventured on a great work,

the fabric of a new and well composed building, out of the ruins of an old castle of rags. This task is so heavy, that without further support we cannot so soon finish as sink under it. We have found divers gentlemen of your rank and order, who have had some part of their education amongst us, very liberal in their contributions to the work. Your affection to your decayed mother may be as good as the rest. I can do no less than acquaint you with the design, and of our inability to compass it. I am ashamed to beg, but where I meet with desert, I am not unthankful. *Signet.*

W. Lee to Hugh Cartwright.

1637, November 14. York—I have acquainted the Archbishop that I was at Southwell last Michaelmas, and spoke with Mr. Fat, who would not pay the procurations and synodalls unless I could satisfy him that they had been paid since the dissolution. I told the Archbishop I had a book in which it appears that the procurations and synodalls were paid for Cottam after the death of Archbishop Sandys and that they were also paid in Archbishop Peirs's time, so that there is no doubt that they ought to be paid.

Viscount Conway and Kilulta to his brother[-in-law, Sir Robert Harley].

1637, Nov. 18. London—"I am glad of your health, I perceive that I shall not see you this tearme in this towne. Here is new comme out a booke mutch commended written by Mr. Chillingworth against the Papists; that whitch I have read of him is very sharpe in gentle wordes, soe that it seemes we are not goeing to Rome, whither soever else we are goeing; it may be we shall make somme new discovery. I finde that it is with christian religion as it is with lawe whitch is divers in severall countries, allthough the intent of lawe be only to make men secure in theire persons and goods; but here is the difference betwene law and religion, that if that foundation be preserved it is noe matter what the differences be, for all are alike good, but in religion the superstructure may be of different worth, and to the ruine of the foundation. It is fit that offences should comme, but woe to them by whom they comme; the desire of honour and ritches did seduce Balaam, and must seduce others, and for the things that must be let noe man grieve more then is necessary, let every one seeke to save his owne soule by loving Christ in sincerity, and remember what the Spaniard sayde that comming into an inne and giving his mule corne, goeing but out and returning, the corne was stollen; goeing on to the inne doore he saw a great stone crucifixe in the middle betwene the inne where he was and another; compla[ining] to his Christ he sayde 'O Christ will they never leave crucifying of thee betwene two theeves,' The other hoste that was in the doore of his house asked him why he used to him those wordes since he had done him no ill, to whom the Spaniard sayde '*Sed vos es que se salvo y callad*, Thou art he that was saved therefore hold thy peace.'

But I doe not finde disorder in religion onely; noe condition is free from it, and in your howse the order of things is inverted. You write to me of cheeses and my sister writes about a good scholler but I will take things as I finde them and remove noething out of the place I finde it in, therefore I thanke you for my three cheeses which came to me very well."

The Lords of the Council to the Lord Chief Justices and the Lord Chief Baron.

1637, December 17. Whitehall—Concerning the suppression of the excessive number of alehouses. *Copy.*

Sir John Kyrle to his kinsman, Sir Robert Harley.

1637[-8], January 9—I beg you to suspend your orders as to the taxation of Luston and Morton until we meet, in consequence of the death of our kinsman Walter Blount, whose heir is in the jurisdiction of the Court of Wards. *Signed. Signet.*

Viscount Conway and Kilulta to his brother[-in-law], Sir Robert Harley.

1637[-8], January 12. London—"If your messenger had bin a man of his worde I should have had more leisure to have written to you then now I have, for he promised to stay two dayes. I am glad that Mrs. Broughton is in your country, she is better skilled in the worlde then to goe thither to practice the trade she hath learned; therefore it seemes she will learne a new one. One masque is past and another is comming; other newes here is little. In Scotland they will not receive the booke, neither is it now urged, yet I thinke they doe desire alterations in somme other things. The Lord Tresorer of Scotland is expected here this weeke. The Swedes in Germany have had lately ill successe, as the letters from thence reporte, Banier having lost a great battaile.

It is thought that there will be an accomodation betwene France and Spaine.

The Dutchesse of Cheuveux is expected here continually A ship was long since sent for hir into Spaine, and here it is sayde she will not stay long but will goe to Brussels to the Queene Mother where the King of Spaine doth allow hir an hundred pounds a weeke."

William Strode to the King.

[1638, January ?]—Petition that the settlements agreed to be made upon his marriage by his father Sir Richard Strode, and by his wife's mother Martha, Lady Button might be performed.

1637[-8], February 13. The Court at Whitehall—Order referring the matter to the Archbishop of Canterbury, the Lord Keeper and the Earl of Arundel. *Signed by Sir Sidney Montagu.*

1637[-8], February 14—Order by the Archbishop of Canterbury and the other Commissioners, appointing the 29th of April for the hearing of the business in the Council Chambers. *Copy certified by William Strode and Nicholas Clarke.*

Viscount Conway and Kilulta to [George] Garrard.

1637[-8], February 26. Newmarket—"If I durst offend any one that sees and speakes every day with my Lady Elizabeth you should finde that I did expect a long letter. How doe you thinke that I can be satisfied with thirteen lines in a little quarto written in haste when you must dispatch, quicke, or else supper would be begun before you came; but you have time enough to make me amends for we shall stay heere untill Saterday next.

Yesternight the Frentch Embassador came hither; tomorrow he will wish he had never seene this place for I beleave that a Scotch hunting saddle and a *cul françois* did never parte kindly at first meeting. When we doe not hunt we hawke, and in both these Mukkle Jhon and Jefferey are great actors, the rest of the time is spent in tennis, chesse, and dice, and in a worde we eat and drinke and rise up to play; and this is to live like a gentleman, for what is a gentleman but his pleasure. I know noething of newes that hath bin here save a proclamation for the hanging of greyhoundes. I am glad you are soe neere being delivered of what you have bin longer in travaile withall then the Prince of Condee's mother was with him. I doubt not but you will have a happy delivery you have soe many good midwives; I would Middleton were dead to.

I pray commend my humble service to my Lady of Salisbury and to my Lady Elizabeth and tell hir that I thinke Mrs. Wright's eyes the happiest eyes in the whole worlde."

RICHARD OWEN to EDWARD HARLEY, at Brampton.

1638, June. Oriel College — I am much obliged for your letter, which was as acceptable as the Knight's, and, considering your age, quite as elegant. A hand accustomed to such a style will never have to be submitted to the ferule, nor will it ever stick at grammatical trifles. When you come up to Oxford you will find many friends there. Remember me to your lady mother, whose medicines however my London doctor has forbidden me to take. *Latin.*

SIR [R]OBERT [H]ARLEY to his cousin [SAMPSON] EURE, at Grays Inn.

1638, June 8. Brampton—On business. *Draft.*

RICHARD OWEN to EDWARD HARLEY.

1638, July. Oriel College—Another complimentary letter. *Latin.*

SIR FRANCIS FANE to SIR ROBERT HARLEY.

1638, September 13. Apethorpe—My wife and I rejoice at your well-being, but we have a quarrel with you, that you lately visited your friends in these parts, and left us out of the number. *Signet.*

BRILLIANA HARLEY to her brother [, EDWARD HARLEY].

1638, November 1. Brampton—I hope in God you will prosper in your learning and keep still your heart upright to God. My brother Robert has not had any fit this week. He, and all my sisters, send remembrances to you.

The SAME to the SAME, at Magdalen Hall, Oxford.

1638, November 12. Brampton—Sending messages to Mr. Perkins and others. *Signet.*

SCOTLAND.

1638, November 21—A brief collection of the passages of the Assembly held at Glasgow.

The first day the nobility and commissioners met, they first of all called on the name of the Lord for his assistance and prayed a blessing for their meeting.

The next day the commissioners letters and commissions were produced, and the commissioners for every Presbytery were called to produce their commission.

The 23rd of November, Mr. Alexander Henrison, after long consultation, was chosen moderator for the Assembly.

The 24th November, the Assembly proceeded to the election of their clerk out of four who were nominated, namely Thomas Sandilands, Archibald Johnson, John Nicholls, and Alexander Blair. The Marquis, as his Majesty's Commissioner, desired that he and his assessors might be admitted for choosing the clerk and all other officers, which the whole Assembly refused for many reasons. At this election Archibald Johnson was chosen clerk and was generally admitted and sworn for dutiful administration of his office, and to be answerable for the registry to the Assembly; after which were produced the registers of all the Assemblies since 1560, consisting of six volumes. After consultation an act was made that the Earl of Rothes, the Earl of Lauderdale, Alexander Gibson the clerk of Dandy, Andrew Ramsey, John Rowe, John Adamson, James Bonar, John Bell, and Robert Murray should inspect and report on the books of the Assembly.

The 25th November the moderator desired the commissioners to be tried, and, to avoid tediousness, declared that if anyone objected to any commission they should be heard, but if none objected their silence should be taken for approbation. To this the King's commissioner protested that he might object to any commission at any time after the commission was produced. Amongst many commissions there were two for Brechin which were questioned. The first was that wherein the Lord of Durn was nominated commissioner, and the second was Lord Carnegie, Durn's commission, which had an approbation on the back; whereupon the Marquis desired the commission and approbation under the clerk's hand, and the Assembly were content he should have the commission but not the approbation. Whereupon the Marquis "tooke instruments."

The 27th November the rest of the commissions were read and some were questioned, namely the Presbytery of Peebles and Glasgow and Glasgow University, for having three commissions, and Brechin for having two railing elders, the Lord of Durn and Lord Carnegie; all which were referred to a committee of six ministers.

BRILLIANA HARLEY to her brother, EDWARD HARLEY, at Magdalen Hall, Oxford.

1638, November 30. Brampton—My cousin Adams presents his service to you. I am very glad that you like Oxford so well, and that you like your tutor so well, and that he likes you.

The SAME to the SAME.

1638, December 11. Brampton—I pray you accept of a box of wafers from me. Hal made us all laugh tonight at supper, for my father asking him whether you did not give him a "dedlema"

(dilemma ?) he said that you did not know that he had eaten lemons. He had brought some down for my mother and had had juice of lemons tonight. *Endorsed.* "Being written all within for the most part with black starch."

STANLEY GOWER to EDWARD HARLEY, Student at Magdalen Hall, Oxford.

1638, December 23. Brampton—It joys me to hear your complaints of the cold means, and to hear of your courageous and resolute repulses of academic vanities. Be always looking at your nature, and fear that it act its part above grace in you. You have some good help from your tutor and some private Christians; be of their society, but fear God. Let my best love be remembered to your tutor and George Griffith, to neither of whom can I write now. T'is Sabbath day, at night, and I am to preach on Tuesday and I have only given an essay to some future and more considerate lines. The Lord fire out your corruptions of that Academy, or at least strengthen you.

BRILLIANA HARLEY to her brother, EDWARD HARLEY, at Magdalen Hall, Oxford.

1638, December 25—Labour to keep your heart upright unto God, which is a very hard thing to do in these days. Good brother remember me in your prayers. My cousins Davies and Smith send their service to you.

The SAME to the SAME.

1638[-9], January 14—My father had lately brought him a most horrible picture of the Great God of Heaven and Earth, which he broke all to pieces. I pray to God to keep your heart upright, for you are in a place where there is much vanity. *Signet.*

SAMPSON EURE to SIR ROBERT HARLEY, at Mr. Philip Traherne's house in Hereford.

1638[-9], January 22. Ludlow Castle—Asking for payment on account of rent due. *Signet.*

BRILLIANA HARLEY to her brother, EDWARD HARLEY, at Oxford.

1638[-9], January 25—I am sorry that you have not the word of God, which I pray for, but I pray that God may guide you by his spirit that you may walk warily.

HUMPHRY SALWEY to SIR ROBERT HARLEY, at Brampton.

1638[-9], February 5. Stamford—Concerning the new House of Correction lately built in the county. *Signet.*

BRILLIANA HARLEY to her brother, EDWARD HARLEY.

1638[-9], February 8. Brampton—The image I wrote you of was found in Buckton in Robert Mathey's house, who in plucking up a plank in his stable, found it. He kept it about a year and then someone told my father who sent for it and broke it in pieces, and I flung the dust upon the water.

VISCOUNT CONWAY and KILULTA to GEORGE GARRARD, Master of the Charterhouse.

1638[-9], February 12. Dublin—"There hath not bin any thing in my journey whitch you will care to know. The mountaines of Wales and the ill lodging at Holyhead you will never be acquainted with; and let me but except my Lord Deputy, here is not any thing that you will desire to know the estate of; you say now to your selfe why then doth he write to me, since noething can be written whitch I would care to know? I will tell you Sir that allthough I am not able to doe you service that I may request a favour from you; to recommend my humble service to my Lady Elisabeth with your best wordes; and say what you will I will make it good.

I did speake to your neighbour my Lord Dunsmore for certaine verses; he promised me to bring them to London and to let you have them to coppy out; I pray let them be copied by Andrew who writes now for my Lord Admirall; and soe soone as I know that you have the papers I will let you know where to call for money to pay for theire writing; I pray let me heare once a weeke from you, I had rather reade your letters then any man's that thinkes he writes best, and I will endeavour that you shall not thinke me unworthy of the favour.

BRILLIANA HARLEY to her brother, EDWARD HARLEY.

1638[-9], February 15. Brampton—I am glad to hear that you do not love to keep company with those who fear not God. Watch over your heart for the devil is very apt to tempt us to sin. I am sorry that you have not the word of God. Mr. Gower preaches better and better every day.

The EARL OF LINDSEY to SIR ROBERT HARLEY.

1638[-9], February 18. Westminster—I understand from my cousin Eure that you desire an abatement of the rent of Mocktree. It is not in my power to grant any abatement. *Signed. Seal of arms.*

RICHARD OWEN to EDWARD HARLEY, at Magdalen Hall, Oxford.

1638[-9], February 23. At the Gilded Lion in the lower end of Cornhill, by the stocks, London—I was in Oxford on Wednesday but had no leisure to come and look upon you. I came from Woodstock and rode in the afternoon twenty miles to Wycombe (Wickham) where, at the inn I met Mr. Provost Tolson who told me that you had brought 5*l*., which Doctor Hughes had sent us towards our building. I enclose herewith a letter of thanks in the name of the whole college and beg you to forward it to Brampton Bryan. When you write to your father present to him the respect and thanks of the whole College, for we esteem ourselves more engaged to him that promised it than to the Doctor that gave it.

BRILLIANA HARLEY to her brother, EDWARD HARLEY, at Magdalen Hall, Oxford.

1638[-9], February—Sending good wishes. *Signet.*

The SAME to the SAME.

1638[-9], March 1. Brampton—I know that you have more serious employments than the reading of my crippled lines. I assure

myself that in all your studies your chiefest study is to gain that which may tend to your chiefest good. I need not tell you what good that is.

DOCTORS JOHN STOUGHTON and WILLIAM GOUGE to SIR ROBERT HARLEY, at Brampton.

1638[-9], March 4. London—Asking for some assistance for James Barber, an upholder, or, as he is commonly called, an upholster, dwelling in Checker Yard, without Aldgate. *Signed. Signet.*

BRILLIANA HARLEY to her brother, EDWARD HARLEY, at Magdalen Hall, Oxford.

1638[-9], March 8. Brampton—Asking him to write to her.

The SAME to the SAME.

1638[-9], March 15—As you have received mine so I have received yours, and I dare not return you so truly hyperbolical a compliment as you have adventured upon when you assure me that there is nothing more welcome than my letters. But you scholars of Oxford learn, especially at this time of Lent, to multiply three eggs into two, and I think a good cold pie, if it were in competition betwixt my letters and your learned lips, you would find some rhetorical figure that would open your mouth to praise the piecrust and despise the paper; And now dear brother since you are so learned in the almanack, I pray you tell me what weather it was and what conjunction of planets there were when I wrote this to my dearest brother and then you will easily be persuaded to believe that I rest unfeignedly your affectionate sister.

The SAME to the SAME.

1639, March 27. Brampton—I am very sorry to hear that your eyes are sore. We hear that the Irish have fought with the Scotch. and the Irish beat the Scotch the first day, but the Scotch beat them the next.

The SAME to the SAME.

1639, April 3. Brampton—On family matters.

The SAME to the SAME.

1639, April—I pray you pardon my silence. I hope many more letters will not pass between us before you come home. We hear that five hundred soldiers were sent out of Scotland to defend the Isle of Man from the Scots; and when they that dwelt there saw them, they thought they were the Scots come against them and so they lighted their beacons. We hear that the Treasurer of Scotland came to the King to ask him to make peace but the King put him in prison.

The SAME to the SAME.

1639, April 29. Brampton—I am sorry you are not well. We hear that the Scots have got all Scotland.

The Same to the Same.

1639, May 3. Brampton—Asking for a letter and sending good wishes.

The Same to the Same.

1639, May 7. Brampton—Keep your heart up to God. We never needed grace more than in these declining times. Now we must learn to lay down our lives for Christ. I am very sorry that you have not the word of God preached to you in a right manner.

The Same to the Same.

1639, May 20. Brampton—Keep your heart upright to God, for these are very woeful times.

The Same to the Same.

1639, May 24. Brampton—We hear that the King lay in his tent in the field upon Wednesday come sen'night and that he hath sent a general press for 50000 men, and out of every constable's ward two "papis." Indeed these are woeful times. The Lord send peace.

The Same to the Same.

1639, June 17. Brampton—I am glad to hear you have arrived safely at Oxford. My sister Margaret's ague has left her. My father had a fit of the "passion of his heart" upon Monday, but he is very well now.

The Same to the Same.

1639, July 4. Brampton—I hope that you will come home after the "act"; I wish with all my heart I could hear you dispute.

The Same to the Same.

1639, July 5. Brampton—On family matters.

The Same to the Same.

1639, July 13. Brampton—I can never write too often to you, if it were every hour. I hope my father will send for you shortly. Old Lady Conway, my mother's mother-in-law, is dead.

The Same to the Same.

Same date and place—I long to hear that you are well come out of the great crowd that was at the "acte"; for Thomas said that there was so great a crowd that he could hardly get into the church.

William Strode to his sister ——.

1639, October 9. Nuningham—My wife and myself are warned to depart from the house. Pray tell my Lady so. And also that all of ours must begone also; and that there are many entanglements made daily in the estate and the very demesne of Nuningham.

Brilliana Harley to her brother, Edward Harley, at Oxford.

1639, October 25. Brampton—On family matters.

The Same to the Same.

1639, October 30—I am glad you came safe to Oxford. I was very sorry to part with you, and much more when I thought that I should not see you again for a great while. But I hope your tutor will be better than his word and let you come at Christmas.

The Same to the Same.

1639, November 9. Brampton—Things in Scotland go as badly as they can, and the King hath adjourned the Parliament "but hath not named what day," which is not good.

The Same to the Same.

1639, November 23. Brampton—I am afraid I shall trouble you with my crippled lines, but I cannot omit any opportunity of writing to you.

The Same to the Same.

1639, November 29. Brampton—Sending him a token.

Sir Robert Harley to Sir Thomas Milward, Chief Justice of Chester, at Ludlow Castle.

1639, December 5. Brampton—On business.

Viscount Conway and Kilulta to his brother[-in-law], Sir Robert Harley.

1639, December 7. London—I hope I shall see you here before many months, for I make no question that you will be one in the Parliament which I believe will begin about the beginning of March. There will also be another in Ireland, and of this my Lord Deputy is the author. Signet.

The Parliament.

1639—A list of twenty-seven questions to be put to Parliament, almost entirely on religious matters.

Brilliana Harley to her brother, Edward Harley, at Oxford.

1640, January 17. Brampton—Sending him some books.

Sir Andrew Corbett to Sir Robert Harley.

[1640], January 20. Moreton Corbett—I am glad to hear that you are like to be one of the Parliament, and could wish there were many more such members. In my own part I am now out of that danger. *Signet.*

Brilliana Harley to her brother, Edward Harley, at Magdalen Hall, Oxford.

1639–40, January 31. Brampton—I thought bad news would come fast enough to you so I would not send you bad news but

I would rather be the messenger of that which I now am, which is that my mother is better. You say you can give no better construction of it than that I was busy at "patis" and so could not find in my heart to go and see my mother. My mother has been very ill when you were at home and if then you saw me at "patis" and not with my mother, then indeed you might have thought it so, but I am sure you never saw me do it.

The Same to the Same.

1639–40, February 3. Brampton—I hope by this time you have forgot the fault that I did not write to tell you of my mother's illness. I hope that fault and all others are buried in the grave of oblivion.

The Same to the Same.

1639–40, February 8. Brampton—I am now the messenger of the good news that my mother has risen out of her bed. As I am the messenger of this I hope it will make amends. The last letter you wrote me had not a spark of love in it. I would be very glad of a letter with a little more love in it than this one had.

Sir Walter Pye to his kinsman, Sir Robert Harley.

1639[–40], February 10. Mynde—Sir William Croft tells me he cannot persuade himself there will be any opposition against us. If one be made it will be carried so privately that the first appearance will be at the place and time of election. To prevent such surprise I conceive it very necessary we bring with us such number of freeholders as may not only secure us, but destroy their subterfuges. I will be ordered as you advise. Provision must be made at Hereford for the entertainof the gentlemen and others who will be there on Friday night. I have spoken to Philip Treherne to provide an ordinary at his old house, of 2/6, and he has undertaken it. *Signet.*

Brilliana Harley to her brother, Edward Harley, at Oxford.

1639–40, February 12. Brampton—Cousin Smith greets you and my sister Dorothy. It is quite true about the two murders; the tinker who killed the maid, and the other man who killed his uncle.

Viscount Conway and Kilulta to his brother[-in-law, Sir Robert Harley].

1639–40, February 16. London—"I was very sorry for the advertisement you gave me of my sister's sicknes and the cause of it, your servant tells me that you do not enjoy your health. To heare of the recovery of yours and my sister's will be very wellcome newes to me, therefore I pray let me have the contentment soe soone as it is possibly convenient for you.

We have bin here very busy in the Councell of warre, and you will shortly heare of the effects of our consultation. Five troopes are now immediately to be levied to be put into Barwike and Carlisle, and two thowsand more are forthwith to be raised, with whom I shall have somme command. Sir Jhon Coniers will be Lieutenant Generall, and Mr. Willmot shall be Commissary Generall; if you thinke your sonne olde enough if you send him to me I will take care of him. If there be any about you that will bring theire owne horses they shall have very good

pay; if they bring servants mounted upon serviceable horses fit to serve in the troope, a servant may looke to his owne horse and his master's, and the master shall receive five shillings the day for himselfe and his man. If there be any good strong trotting gueldings in your partes I pray let me know theire number and theire prizes, if there were any one that were extraordinary fine I woulde gladly buy him for my selfe and woulde put him to the great saddle; I would doe the like if he did pace. If you can finde any men that will bring theire owne horses you will doe me a singular curtesy.

The Prince Elector is still in prison. His two younger brothers are comming from France into Holland by sea; a ship of the King's doth goe for them. The Queene of France is againe with child; that King is troubled with the gout. My Lord Lieutenant of Ireland is within ten dayes to goe into Ireland there to holde the Parlament. The Parlament here will holde at the time appointed; If there be any thing within my knowledge that you would be informed in let me know it and you shall receive an answeare."

BRILLIANA HARLEY to her brother, EDWARD HARLEY, at Oxford.

1639–40, February 21. Brampton—My Lady commanded me to tell you that she beseeches you not to forget the Ember-week. I am sure you have heard of the death of Mr. Hiben (Hibbon), and that Lord Craven came down into the country but stayed only two days.

WILLIAM STRODE to his mother[-in-law], MARTHA, LADY BUTTON, at Parkgate.

1639[–40], February 26. Nuningham—"My father hath gotten an order for staying the writt of rebellion because he'l answere next term. This is much delay. He may answere then nothing, and wee cannot live by his small costs that shall be given." *Signet.*

BRILLIANA HARLEY to her brother, EDWARD HARLEY.

1639–40, February 29. Brampton—You say you consulted with the philosophers and that they said that I ran away from Mistress Blechly; but I must tell you they had not studied the point well enough to know the matter; for I wrote one letter in the morning as soon as I was dressed, whilst my mother was talking about buying the fish fresh caught, and put it with my mother's. And at night then, my father not being well, I wrote the other whilst I was in his chamber. My father is now very well but has had a fit of trembling of the heart. Last Sunday fortnight he was so ill that Mr. Gower preached in the hall.

The SAME to the SAME.

1639–40, March 6. Brampton—Our county "dayhet" in Herefordshire is upon Saturday se'nnight and it is the next day after the assizes. Four are standing for Knights of the Shire in Shropshire, and one in Herefordshire, that is Sir Walter Pye. I thank you for the token you sent me though it was but "the chine of a haring." You would have laughed if you had heard what reading there was, what it was. They all said, sure it was some delicate thing. I hope the pie my mother sent you was good, because you said you sent me the fish that I might speak to my mother for some flesh meat. I humbly thank you for the silver thimble you bought me in London.

HEREFORDSHIRE.

1639[-40], March 6. Bassam—A request from Richard Skinner to his cousin Edmund Skinner and his friends Henry Jones and his friends; his cousin John Phillipps, John Skinner the Elder and Younger of Ledbury, and their friends; his cousin Francis Hall and his friends; his son Gammond and his friends; Thomas Hopkins of Ledbury and his friends; his cousin William Hopkins and his friends; William Lane of Pixley; Edward A. Godshall; Henry Hamond, John Hamond, and William Hawkins and their friends; and Thomas Turnor, his workman and as many as he could procure, to give their voices at Hereford upon Saturday come se'nnight to choose Sir Robert Harley and Sir Walter Pye for knights of the shire.

Note. "Now leaste there should be any doubt who have alowable voices in this case let it be knowne that all freehoulders and coppyhoulders and all that hold by tearme of three lives or on life, have voices in this case, although it be but the hould of an house, a garden, an acre, or any patch of ground, as also any annuity during one life or more."

The day of meeting will be the 14th of March at Hereford Castle.

BRILLIANA HARLEY to her brother, EDWARD HARLEY.

1639–40, March 14. Brampton—My father went on Friday to the election of knights of the shire and I hope he will come home today, but he could not tell whether he should or no, for he said that if three stand he should not come till Monday or Tuesday. Mr Gower is gone with him. In Shropshire Mr. Vincent Corbet and Mr. Pierpoint did stand to be knights of that shire, but they have broken, and they know not who shall be the knights.

The SAME to the SAME.

1640, March 28. Brampton—My letter was to have gone to you by the London carriage, but the messenger went away without it. You will have heard that my father and Sir Walter Pye are elected knights of the Parliament for this county. My father intends to go to London on Friday.

THOMAS COTTON to his mother, LADY COTTON, at WESTMINSTER.

1640, March 30—I have now fully agreed with Mrs. Anderson, and we intend to marry in Easter week. I hope it will prove a fortunate day. The Monday after there is a fair at Bigglesworth where good horses are usually to be had, so Edmond and Kellam intend to go and buy you coach-horses, if you wish. They are very hard to be got and exceeding dear, the business for Scotland taking up so many. My uncle Thomas Cotton is like to die. He first suspected it to be stone, but I believe it to be scurvy as his legs are spotted. Mr. Sheriff calls for ship money, but I do not hear of many but have paid.

SIR RICHARD STRODE.

1640, March 31—"The unchristianly, the uncharatable, the unnaturale, the unhuman barberous dealinge of Sir R. S. with his sone an wife an children an famylie. About Ester be verie bisterous wether att that time of the yeer, the 31 of March 1640 he Sir R. S. came into

theer chamber with tow of his wemen, caried away theer bedding, cott the cords which weer in the bedsteeds, broke the glase windowes to the number of fowr, she, his wife, being great with child within five weeks of her time and alsoe having a sonne butt twelmonth ould, being sike for that it was but nuly waned from his nurse; and having threned them often before, and his servant, that he would beat them and put them in preson, and that he would not kepe them for 100*l.* a year, althoug it was his promise. Being asked what his sone should doe, he answered let him goe to gele; what he ment by itt, whether should steall or what he should doe I know not. Another time when his sone and wife weer gone to vesitt some of theer frinds and leving to children behind, a daughter of tow yeers old and sone of but halfe a yeer old with theer nurse, Sir R. S. cam and threned the nurse in his sone and wife's absence and did put them out of theer shamber."

SIR JOHN MAYNARD to his aunt, MARTHA, LADY BUTTON, at Parkgate, in Tavistock.

1640, April 3. Tavistock—I am sorry to have no better occasion to write to you than the unkind and unnatural actions of Sir Richard Strode to his own son and your daughter. He perhaps pleases himself therein but he could not have done any thing more advantageous to your cause against him. But it draws you and his actions into the view of the whole world. My advice is that you, by a contrary way to him, a way of love and kindness to your own children, could not heap more coals of fire on his head. I pray you to consider how much it will concern you in every respect both to God, yourself, the world, your credit, the preferment of her who is yet with you, to be unlike to Sir Richard Strode, and as he is an unkind father, so that you would show yourself a kind mother. Remember my service to my cousin Mary. *Signet.*

PARLIAMENT.

1640, April 13—Speeches of the King and the Lord Keeper delivered at the opening of Parliament, together with the letter signed by seven Scotch Lords and directed "*Au Roy.*" *See Rushworth's Hist. Collect., Vol. III., pp.* 1114 *to* 1120. *Eight pages.*

BRILLIANA HARLEY to her brother, EDWARD HARLEY, at Oxford.

1640, April 17. Brampton. I presume to send you a little book of verses, though I scarcely presume to send you a book.

The SAME to the SAME.

1640, April 24. Brampton—I rejoice to hear that my father and you are well, and that the Parliament began, and still more that the King prayed in Westminster Church. We have heard that the King prayed before he went to the Parliament House and that the people cried Amen so loud that it made his head ache. A letter from you will be exceedingly welcome to me.

ROBERT GRIFFITH to EDWARD HARLEY, at Magdalen Hall.

1640, April 27—I will inform you the best I can how things stand in Parliament. On Thursday last the 23rd it was voted in the House of

Commons that the debate of grievances should precede that of supply, and that they should desire a conference with the Lords. The next day the King came to the Upper House, and on Saturday the Lords desired a conference with the House of Commons, wherein they acquainted them by my Lord Keeper with his Majesty's desire that they should give precedency to supply, and trust him for his gracious answer to the grievances, which he promised to relieve as far as in justice and reason they could ask. My Lord Keeper further made known to them that the Lords had declared by vote that they held it most necessary and fit that the matter of supply should be preferred before any matter whatsoever, which produced this effect this morning in the Commons House, that after the report made of what was delivered at the conference, exception was presently taken by the Commons that the Lords had meddled with matters of supply before it first moved from the House of Commons, and was voted as an infringing of the liberty of the Commons House.

BRILLIANA HARLEY to her brother, EDWARD HARLEY.

1640. May 1. Brampton—I am sorry that my mother has not heard how my father does. I take it as a great favour from you that you would be pleased to take the pains to write to me. I take your token as if you had sent me a "rayl thing."

The SAME to the SAME.

1640, May 4. Brampton—My mother was confined to her bed last week but now she is better.

ROBERT GRIFFITH to EDWARD HARLEY.

1640, May 6—Sir Robert Harley has commanded me to represent to you the worst news that could, I think, befall this Kingdom, the dissolution of Parliament. The evil consequences which are likely to ensue I pray God avert. I hear that Convocation House sits still, and will do so till Saturday, and so for laws we shall have canons. Sir Robert says he will be at Oxford next week and he will have you and Mr. Perkins consider whether you will both go down with him to keep Whitsuntide at Brampton or not. I will send your hangers next week. This morning it was told Sir Robert Harley that Mr. Hampden's (Hamlden) study and papers were searched by Sir Dudley Carleton this morning.

VISCOUNT CONWAY AND KILULTA to [GEORGE] GARRARD.

1640, May 20. Newcastle—"Now that the Parliament is concluded I perceive the reason that I have not heard from from you; the times were to troublesome. Now that you have liberty to walke whither it shall please your selfe in the morning and to bowle in the afternoone I hope you will let me heare of you. If the prentices are still in armes looke well to the Charter howse; let your olde souldiours walke the rounde and stand sentinell, and aske advice of somme good lawyer whether you may not fortify your howse in times of danger whitch you suspect without any great cause. There is a certaine military booke, for it is a booke of controversy, called *the Counter blaste*, reade it and see whether you can finde any thing in it against petards, they are divelish things and they are likely enough to put somme sutch tricke upon you if

they heare that you are a monyed man, or that the howse hath good plate; but I beleave the prentices will make but a Shrove Tuesday busines of it. If theire disorder would cause me to be sent for to London that I might see that blessed sight my Lady of Devonshire, I should be mutch more theire frend then I am, for there is noe trust to be put in the common people; they have neither constancy nor gratitude; they neither requite the love that is bestowed on them, nor continue in their love to any one; I pray make a very good speatch to my Lady of Devonshire upon this subject, that I may finde my fayth, and zeale to hir service rewarded with that gracious looke that makes the divells forget hell and the angells heaven."

EDWARD PELHAM to his cousin, EDWARD HARLEY, at Brampton.

1640 [May?]—Your absence has been a great loss to me, for I always account your company as dear to me as myself. *Signet.*

BRILLIANA HARLEY to her brother, EDWARD HARLEY.

1640, June 19. Brampton—My father has not been well in his head since you went from hence. I presume you have heard of the proclamation which the King has made that there must be a public fast throughout the kingdom of England. The reason is because God has been very merciful to us above all other kingdoms. And that this may be the better kept the Archbishop must put out a book how it shall be kept.

STANLEY GOWER to EDWARD HARLEY, at Oxford.

1640, June 26. London—My Lord Loudoun has kissed the King's hands, but is to remain in the tower till Monday, on which day he is to take the journey to Scotland. The study of my Lord Primate is not on those subjects you heard, only there came to him Secretary Windebanke upon Wednesday morning from the King to command him to write upon the right of kings. He is prepared to decline to do so if he can, for which purpose he went upon Thursday to my Lord of Canterbury. If he cannot get off he purposes, he himself told me, to write *de thesi* but not to meddle with the *Hypothesis*, which wholly alters the state of the query. He goes tomorrow to Cambridge and thence to Oxford. I must acquaint you with the lamentable division at our public fast. But most profanely there is a ballad cried up and down in the streets of the Inns. For that as other things let us mourn.

BRILLIANA HARLEY to her brother, EDWARD HARLEY.

1640, July 6.—Brampton—Doctor Deodate has been here and has given my father medicine. Mr. Balaam prays you to command your man to give this letter to his sister.

T. ALDERNE, High Sheriff of Herefordshire, to the CHIEF CONSTABLES of the Hundred of Wigmore.

1640, July 27. Hereford—You received from me a warrant dated the 8th July for the levying and collecting of shipping money. Now I have since received further commands from the King through the Lord

President of the Council for the Marches of Wales for the collection and speedy return of the whole sum imposed upon the county for that service; I have therefor to require you in the King's name forthwith to levy and collect the whole sum charged upon the hundred of Wigmore and to appear before me at the Market House in Hereford on the 8th of August next and there to pay me the whole sum charged upon the hundred.

The Earl of Rutland and others to the King.

1640, August 21—*See Calendar of State Papers. Domestic, same date. This copy has only ten signatures; the names of the Earls of Exeter and Warwick are omitted.*

Joseph Crosse to Edward Harley, at Brampton.

1640, August—I request you to return the transcription which I am going to send you at your next opportunity after reading it. It shall be sent either by me or some other to Mr. John Colborne, bnt neither you nor he shall be certain from whence it comes. It shall be sealed with the seal which I showed you—Mr. Principal's—three ermines and a crescent. You know at what time the carrier brings letters to your house and you may appoint George to take it before it comes to Mr. Colborne's hands if he see that seal upon it. If Mr. Colborne first meet with it he will not know what it is. When he opens the case he will be directed to keep it till Mr. William Pecke—I know no such gentleman to receive it—call to him for it. I pray you likewise to return it to my brother but to so direct it to him and return it to the carrier, that neither the carrier nor he may know whence it comes; but be pleased to write to me and signify what seal you will impress upon it, for if I perceive it hath been broken open I shall not meddle with it, nor would I have you receive it if it have not the seal which I mentioned. I know you wonder at these scrupulous ambages, but *abundans cautela non nocet*. Our Oxford news is that of your pheasants the "Hur" is dead, and that there will be peace with Scotland. The one I think as false as the other is impertinent. *Signet.*

Edward Perkins to Edward Harley, at Brampton.

1640, September 26.—Faringdon—Excusing himself on the score of health for not having come or written, and thanking Sir Robert and Lady Harley for all their kindness. *Signet. Endorsed:* "From my tutor."

Sir Robert Harley and F[itzwilliam] C[oningsby] to the Earl of Essex, at Essex House, London.

1640, October 9—"We have beene invited by divers gentlemen of the best quality in this county to stand to be knights for this shire at the next Parliament, the knowledge whereof we understand ourselves much obliged to represent to your Lordship, in reference to the great interest your Lordship hath in Herefordshire, and our humble thankfullness for your Lordships former favours, well knowinge what luster your Lordship's approbation would put uppon us, and what eclipse we should suffer without it in that employment. Our county day will be the 24th of this month, before which time we beseech your Lordship to youchsafe us the signification of your pleasure." *Signed by Sir Robert Harley.*

THOMAS ALDERNE, High Sheriff, to the CHIEF CONSTABLE of the hundred of WIGMORE, and others.

1640, October 14. Hereford—Warrant for the collection of ship money from the parsons, vicars, and curates within the hundred of Wigmore. *Copy.*

JOSEPH CROSSE to EDWARD HARLEY, at Brampton.

1640, October—On Thursday week my brother received certain papers sent he knows not from whom, only he conceives Mr. Gower was the author of the *Large Considerations.* We yet hear of no writs, for it is feared there will be no Parliament in haste. Our doctors "walke to one another and mee thinkes they looke mournefully." Squire Fiennes and Lord Wenman are generally pitched upon to be knight of the shire (Oxfordshire) and Mr. Smith one of the city burgesses. I enclose such news as we have received. If the Londoners send no cash the King may then call them knaves, but he cannot call them fools. It is said they will lend none. The King's proverb was heard of here before Dr. Burgesse went to York and therefore I scarce believe it now that he comes thence, but if it be time I think "his tubs will not hold water." *Signed* Jo. de Sancta Cru.

HEREFORDSHIRE.

1640, October 24—Disbursements amounting to 155*l.* 9*s.* 6*d.* made by William Morris at the election of knights for the Parliament. The chief items are for wine and lodging at the Black Swan, the Angel, and other taverns, and expenses incurred at the Booth Hall.

VISCOUNT CONWAY and KILULTA to [GEORGE GARRARD].

1640, October 29. York—"I comme slowly to thanke you for the favour you did me in writing to me, and you were long before you did it. Why did you not let me know whether you did like the ale or noe, that if it had bin good I might have sent you somme more, as I will doe if you let me know quickly, for I am comming to London, to the battaile that is to be fought there,

I hope that you will stand to it better then we did at Newburne; it is thought that there will be hot worke. You out of your long experience will be called upon to be a principall officer; arme your selfe with zeale, and with the sword of eloquence cut in two the Puritans, and chop of the heades of all Anti-Monarchists, but above all give money enough. Without that there will be no driving the Scots out of Newcastle. The cessation of armes whitch we have made is not out of any feare that we have of them, but partly for want of money, partly for sommewhat else, and partly that the Parlament might make a good warre.

I take it very unkindly that you would not let me know how I was railed on. I would that they that spake ill of me had bin there that I might have spoken ill of them; but I have heard that you tooke me into your patronage and defended me. Then I hope that you rectifyed me in the opinion of my Lady of Devonshire; if I am well there what is all the rest of the worlde. I hope I shall see hir at London; it is mutch better to be brought to bed there then at Hatfield, and allthough I have heard of divers that have miscarried by goeing doune into the country, I never hearde of any that tooke hurte comming to London."

STANLEY GOWER to [SIR ROBERT HARLEY].

1640, November 9. Brampton—It joys us to hear that the King has referred the full trial of offences and offenders to you, but how that should consist with his leaving you we much fear. We hear of the City fears; the Tower and Lambeth are so fortified, and Bishop Wren so advanced. Here we apprehend as great fears in the country. Popish houses are so ready to execute whatsoever plots are hatching. God teach you all wisdom. But methinks that some care should be had before you sit, that Popish houses should be searched through the land, and their ammunition seized on. It is said that as much meat is dressed in Sir Basil Brook's daily as three cooks can make ready, and it is not seen or known who eats it; as likewise that the said Knight should say he wonders that my Lord of Canterbury should dissemble so long since it is well enough known he is a Papist. The Lord make you a means of rooting the Canaanites out of the land.

The SAME to the SAME, in London.

1640, November 20. Brampton—The ministers at our first court since the election of clerks of convocation were willing to protest but loath to make the protestation against undue election in open court, which they put me to do, and I did it on a remarkable day, November 17th. We required the registry to record it but they refused (1) as having no judge in the Court, (2) as being out of date because it should have been made within fifteen days. To the first I replied that I thought they had then no power to call us to appear before them; to the second I replied that I thought the course we moved to take for recovering our privilege would help us to our right of election, had it been 1,500 days unattempted. Howbeit we protest at the first court we were called to, having taken witness of our tender of the protestation; and on calling for the record and it being refused us we went to counsel, first to Mr. William Littleton and then to Justice Littleton, and they both liked exceedingly what we had done, assuring us that the Parliament will take due notice of us and that it will be a good remonstrance against the corruption of that hierarchy whose downfall we expect daily. We have drawn two petitions and are getting them both subscribed, one against the election and the other against both books of canons. I rejoice to see a proclamation for a fast. Methinks the style of these two last proclamations is more pithy since we speak in God's dialect. The Lord fill us for that day, howbeit I desire to burn if I may not keep our ember day also, because the rumour of its suspension is abroad. *Signet.*

WILLIAM BURROWES to the HOUSE OF COMMONS

1640, November 22—Petition on behalf of the scale-cutters, band-box-makers, sword-slipers, drum-makers, looking glass-makers, box-makers, and other tradesmen against a patent granted by the King to Sarah Jerom for the exclusive right of cutting scales.

WILLIAM NOYLE to SIR ROBERT HARLEY.

1640, November 23—Concerning reformation.

EDWARD PERKINS to EDWARD HARLEY, at the 'Three Black Lions' in the Old Bailey.

1640, November 23. Oxford—It was voted by us that you might be censured for a monopolizer; a whole week's silence was a sufficient

conviction. However your last relation has taken off somewhat from the efficacy of the bill preferred which is now upon the file until you make your personal answer, whereof your letter gives us some fair hopes, news as welcome as any in your inclosed *currento*. "All due respect to your noble father. The Lord make him an instrument to pull of this little horne from the head of the beast. The Lord confound the Bishops."

The Clothiers of Worcester to the House of Commons.

1640, November 24—Petition for the redress of certain grievances affecting the woollen trade. *Copy*.

Lord Goring to Sir Robert Harley.

1640, November 30—Since I saw you this morning I have thought it best to send you these lines to show you how I am interested in this smoky business of tobacco. First my interest is as a farmer, amongst the rest, in the customs of tobacco which is a part of the great farm. Next I am farmer alone of the import of tobacco at 11,000*l*. a year. Lastly I am farmer of the licences of tobacco at 11,000*l*. certain rent, and two thirds of the overplus of gain to the King, if there be any. In the two former I have prayed Sir John Hules to oversee my servants and receive from them such moneys as shall be paid upon these duties for his reimbursement of all such bills of exchange as he shall give the Prince Elector's two brothers and sisters, who have their assignments in these farms of 16,000*l*. a year, besides divers other assignments to others. He is therefore only my careful friend to see these moneys paid without the least benefit thereby or interest therein; and I am only the King's farmer, who have increased his rent upon the same ground, and yet I found them without the least change or variation whatever.

Edward Perkins to Edward Harley, at Mr. Smith's in the Old Bailey, at the sign of the 'Three Black Lions.'

1640, November—Thanking him for his letter and hoping for his return.

Sir Thomas Roe.

1640 [November?]—A summary of his speech on the decay of British trade. *See Calendar of State Papers, Domestic*, 1640, *p.* 281.

John Johnston to the House of Commons.

1640, December 1—Petition that the French shoemakers might not be allowed to buy leather in Leadenhall market except for their own use. *Signed. Also a copy of the same.*

Sir Ralph Maddison to the House of Commons.

1640, December 1—Petition concerning the decay of the woollen trade. *Copy*.

WILLIAM DAWSON and THOMAS TODHUNTER to the HOUSE OF COMMONS.

1640, December—Petition for release from the Fleet, where they had been confined in consequence of nonpayment of a fine to their landlord Joseph Huddleston, Esq., lord of the manor of Hutton John in Cumberland who was a papist and had kept papist priests in his house many times.

The TOBACCO PIPE MAKERS to the HOUSE OF COMMONS.

1640, December 1—Petition that their charter of incorporation which had been granted to them by the King about six years before on condition that they paid him 100*l.* per annum and burned all their pipes with sea coal, but which charter had been annulled by the King's proclamation in April 1639, might be restored. *Copy.*

The GOVERNOR, ASSISTANTS, and FELLOWSHIP of EASTLAND MERCHANTS to the HOUSE OF COMMONS.

1640, December 8—Petition for the diminution of the duties upon articles required for use in the cloth trade. *Signed.*

JOHN TOMBS to SIR ROBERT HARLEY, in London.

1640, December 12. Leominster—Concerning the want of preachers in that diocese and the insufficient payment of the clergy.

STANLEY GOWER to SIR ROBERT HARLEY, in London.

1640, December 12. Brampton—"We bless God for you in particular, whose zeale is not reckoned in the country amongst the thirty, but amongst the first three; yet do we behold you all but as severall tooles in God's hands to make up the watch of his church, now almost spoyled." I enclose two petitions. "By the one you may perceive how in the most general business that concernes all the clergy the Bishops party are alone, and exempt us from our votes that they may make up that number of 666 which in that agrees to them as well as in other names. *Faciat quod vult.* If you help us not here they may do what they list before convocation. By the 2nd you may perceive how insolent they are in making such canons as are most uncanonicall. If you helpe us not here they will do what they list in convocation." We have many popish plots in the country. It is said that there is a special meeting of the Papists shortly to be held. This rumour is believed because Sir Toby Mathew the Jesuit papist is come down to Mr. Pleydom, who I think was never before Ken. That house and "Red Castle" and Sir Basil Brooke's are much feared. If those and other suspected houses could be searched more work might be found for Parliament *Signet.*

MATTHEW CLARK, Rector of Bitterly, and others, ministers of the diocese of Hereford to the HIGH COURT of PARLIAMENT.

[1640], November—Whereas two clerks for convocation ought to be chosen by the free votes of the clergy in our diocese, we have none of us received any legal notice whereby we could be present at the place appointed, and most of us received no warning at all. Which illegal

proceeding has caused us to protest against the election at our generals in open court held at Ludlow on the 16th of November, and we pray you to consider our grievance. *Enclosed in the preceding letter.*

The Same to the Same.

[1640.]—Whereas the late canons of 1640, especially that of the oath, and other canons of 1603, are very burdensome to many "painefull," orthodox, and godly ministers, we pray you to take the books of canons into your consideration and that none of these or any other may ever be enjoined us except such as have been confirmed by Act of Parliament. *Also enclosed in the preceding letter.*

The Canons.

1640 [November ?].—Declaration by thirty-one "conformable" ministers of the diocese of Hereford of their inability conscientiously to take the oath enjoined by the sixth canon of the new constitutions and canons of 1640.

The Company of We^n Glovers or White Tarvers of the City of Chester to the House of Commons.

1640, December 15—Petition for the reduction of the duty on sheepskins, which duty had been increased by the Earl of Strafford who had an interest in the farming of the customs.

Samuel Fisher to Sir Robert Harley, in London.

1640, December 18. Withington—The knowledge has come to my hands of some scandalous words uttered by a seminary priest. The words were these, "That those Lords who had put up the petition to his Majestye were a company of Puritan rascalls, base fellows and base scabbs." The name of the man who spoke thus is Francis Rowley. They were spoken in the house of Francis Saunders, vintner in Whitchurch. He hath been also heard to say that it is a better deed to kill one of our religion than to give a hungry man a meal's meat, who is ready to starve. This Rowley lives in Whitchurch. If this man were apprehended and the words examined by some careful Justices of the Peace I think they could be proved.

Postscript. After writing the above I acquainted my patron Mr. Barker with Rowley's words, and his purpose is to open this business to Sir Richard Newport. *Signet.*

Robert Harley to his brother, Edward Harley, at Magdalen Hall, Oxford.

1640, December 18. Brampton—I am glad to hear of the good and joyful proceeedings of the Parliament. I should be very glad to hear if that be certain, which is reported, that Lord Loudoun's head was to be cut off.

The Merchants of London trading into the Levant and within the Straits to the House of Commons.

1640, December 22—Petition for the reduction of export duties on cloth and drapery goods, and for the repeal of the order made by Sir

Henry Martin, Judge of the Admiralty Court, whereby the masters of ships were freed from all liability for goods as soon as they were discharged from their ships, instead of being liable as they formerly were until the goods were landed. *Signed by William Cokayne as deputy for the Levant Company. Endorsed* "This is referred to the Committee of Trades."

The House of Commons.

1640, December 23—Committee consisting of Mr. Treasurer, Mr. Dunse, Mr. Whisler, Sir Martin Lister, Mr. Whitlocke, Mr. Shuttleworth, Sir Edward Hungerford, Sir Robert Pye, Mr. Ashton, Mr. Hyde, Sir Arthur Ingram, the Knights and Burgesses of the Counties of York, Northumberland, Cumberland, and Westmoreland, the Burgesses of Berwick and Newcastle, and the Knights and Burgesses of Herefordshire, Gloucestershire, Worcestershire, Shropshire, and the thirteen shires of Wales, to consider of the jurisdiction of the Court of York and the Court of the Council of the Marches of Wales.

Wales.

1640—Notes concerning the scarcity of preachers in the Welsh tongue in Wales, where there were over a thousand parishes, and not thirteen preachers who habitually preached and catechised in the Welsh tongue.

The House of Commons.

1640—A list of the learned men employed by the Committee for Religion—Sir Edward Dering in the chair—to compose annotations upon the Bible.

Reform.

[1640 ?]—Notes of a scheme of reformation in England both spiritual and temporal.

Herefordshire.

1640—A list of recusants in the county. Contains two hundred and sixty-five names, a large proportion being women. Includes the names of Scudamore, Cornwall, and Berrington. *Four sheets.*

Vol. III.

Sir William Croft to his kinsman, Sir Robert Harley.

1640[-1], January 1. Hereford—My sister and I are curious to know whether her husband, Sir Ralph Clare, is still kept out of the Parliament by Sir Harry Herbert. *Signet.*

Stanley Gower to Sir Robert Harley, in London.

1640[-1], January 2. Brampton—I am sure the fountain of our impieties lies in the Universities. I hope you will cleanse them thoroughly so that the streams be wholesome waters. May God open the eyes and turn the heart of the King, that he may be "thorough for the reformation wished. The escape of the guilty and the enlargement of the Archbishop" may be a means to rivet the King and

kingdom more closely together or else to ruin them. We have seen your Committee for Ministers, which, I fear, will not go forward till Bishops and Bishoprics go down, for they are the cause of all. Down with them and the Abbey lubbers, our Cathedral men that serve the choir. They are useless to the church, usurpers of the revenues, and the devil's proctors to uphold Antichrist. Away with their courts; they are sinful pickpurses. They eat up the sin of the people, set afoot the buying in of appropriations, that means may be had for the ministry. I wish all ministers of England had but 100*l.* a year. It is enough, and more is but to make them ambitious, covetous, worldly.

IRELAND.

1640[-1], January 4—Some considerations upon the recent vote of the House of Commons in Ireland, that it was their sole and undoubted right to prepare heads of bills for raising money, the order made upon which vote was directed by the King to be torn out of the Commons Journal by his letter dated the 9th November 1640. Also the answer of the King to the Committee who waited upon him to obtain the restoration of the order which had been torn out, in the Journals of the House. *Copy. Twenty-two pages.*

The MERCHANT ADVENTURERS to the COMMITTEE FOR TRADE.

1640[-1], January 5—Petition for the exclusion of foreign traders in cloth goods. *Copy. Seven pages.*

The EASTLAND MERCHANTS to the HOUSE OF COMMONS.

1640[-1], January 5—Petition for reduction of rates of import and export duties on manufactured goods and for other advantages.

The SPANISH MERCHANTS to the COMMITTEE FOR TRADE.

1640[-1], January 5—Petition for redress of grievances and for enacting a Law of Merchants, and for permitting merchants to hear and determine causes in connection with trade in a summary way, and to determine causes concerning policies of insurance. *Copy.*

The SAME to the SAME.

1640[-1], January 5—A list of the injuries and exactions they had suffered from in Spain and Portugal since the last peace. *Copy.*

The SAME to the SAME.

Same date—A list of the injuries they have received from the farmers of the customs. *Copy.*

The FRENCH MERCHANTS to the COMMITTEE FOR TRADE.

1640[-1], January 5—Petition against the excessive charge upon the export of cloth goods into France. *Copy.*

The SPANISH MERCHANTS to [the COMMITTEE FOR TRADE].

1640[-1], January 12—A further list of grievances. *Copy.*

The LEVANT COMPANY to the COMMITTEE FOR TRADE.

1640[-1], January 12—Petition for redress of grievances and for confirmation by Act of Parliament of their grant. Also for obtaining satisfaction for losses suffered from the acts of Sir John Eyres, Sir Peter Wyche, Sir Sackvile Crowe, and Sir Kenelm Digby.

The SAME to the SAME.

Same date—Answers to the four demands made by the Committee for Trade, stating that their trade had decayed, which was proved by their diminished exportation; and that the reasons were, the high charges upon native and foreign commodities, the injuries done to the company by the English ambassador and other persons abroad, the intruding of interlopers into their privileges, and certain restrictions upon exportation of goods. The decay to be remedied by the reduction of duties, confirmation of their charter, and other privileges. *Copy.*

The LONDON LEVANT MERCHANTS to [the COMMITTEE FOR TRADE].

1640[-1], January 12—Petition for redress of grievances and especially for the reduction of duties and restoration of ancient privileges. *Copy.*

The EASTLAND MERCHANTS to the COMMITTEE FOR TRADE.

1640[-1], January 12—Petition giving reasons for the decay of their trade, and praying for redress of their grievances.

ROGER STEPHENS and others to the COMMITTEE FOR TRADE.

1640[-1], January 13—Petition for preventing the manufacture of bad cloth.

The COMPANY OF ENGLISH MERCHANTS for discovering new Trades to the COMMITTEE FOR TRADE.

1640[-1], January 18—Petition praying for the exclusion of Russian and Greenland commodities imported by Hollanders. *Copy.*

The GARDENERS COMPANY of London to the COMMITTEE FOR TRADE.

1640[-1], January 18—Petition that gardening might be adjudged a trade.

BRILLIANA HARLEY to her brother EDWARD HARLEY, in London.

1640[-1], January 22. Brampton—I am glad you and my father are well. My mother has a new cook. I cannot say a good one for he has dressed meat but once, but my Lady Fox commends him. He was her cook. She is gone to London and so he came away.

THOMAS HARLEY to his brother, EDWARD HARLEY.

1640[-1], January 29. Brampton—Some people cast forth reproachful words against the Parliament, and others that might forward the proceedings of the Parliament are very backward. The Brownists are very busy in meetings. Mr. Cradok the minister spoke very reproachfully of Mr. Gower, calling him a base, filthy fellow and a drunkard, and that he never preached anything worth a pin.

EDMOND ASTON, Mayor of Hereford, and others to SIR ROBERT HARLEY.

1640[-1], February 1. Hereford—Asking him to assist the city members in getting the weirs removed from the river. *Signed. Signet.*

ROBERT EDWARDS to SIR ROBERT HARLEY, at his chamber in Palace Yard, Westminster.

1640[-1], February 2. London—Concerning the company of Merchant Adventurers of London. *Signet.*

The EARL OF WARWICK to SIR ROBERT HARLEY.

1640[-1], February 3—Mr. Withrings the postmaster of England for foreign parts has had his office sequestered contrary to law. His cause has held the House four afternoons already and is appointed for the first cause to-day. I beg you therefore to be there and do him what favour you can. *Signed. Signet.*

EDWARD PERKINS to ——.

1640[-1], February 24. From Golledge's House, Oxford—"These lines come from me at a time of rejoycing though now interrupted by the vice-chancellor and proctors who came with all their traine and have taken a great company at Mr. Golledge's. What will be the issue of the businesse I know not. I hope that the Lord will bring us through this. We were all to dine at Mr. Golledges's, and we onely meet some houres before. The good cheare was ready and all our names are taken, but whether he will returne us we know not. I pray acquaint some with it that may be our frindes."

JOHN BROWNE to the HOUSE OF COMMONS.

1640[-1], March 9—Petition for the reformation of the trade or mystery of worsted combing by granting incorporations to the chief towns where worsted combing is practised.

SCOTLAND.

1640[-1], March 10—The desires of the Scotch Commissioners concerning unity in religion. *Signed by Adam Bleyer. Sixteen pages. Printed in King's Pamphlets, E.* 157.

KATHARINE WILKINSON to EDWARD HARLEY.

1640[-1], March 17—I know you have been told of the meeting that was accounted a conventicle; if there had not been a let some would have found it so by the punishment that would have been inflicted. But yet nothing is done here to any of them, but some great ones advise their friends to take heed that they venture no more to such kind of meetings.

The SHIPOWNERS OF DOVER to the HOUSE OF COMMONS.

1640[-1], March — Petition that no stranger ships might be allowed to carry goods from Dover, and that no stranger ships might have the benefit of the convoy of the King's ships.

BRILLIANA, LADY HARLEY, to her husband, SIR ROBERT HARLEY.

1641, March 25—I was never less satisfied in a week's intelligence. There are many rumours in the country, and the King's going to York and the speech of foreign enemies make me long to hear the truth. I very much desire to know how the Parliament took the answer of Sir William Croft and the rest of the Justices when they answered that they knew not by what authority the Parliament required the taking of the protestation. Send me word how you think things stand, for if there should be stirs, Brampton, in respect of worldly help is very weak. There is no one that is watchful. The house is very naked. I do not say this out of fear.

BRILLIANA, LADY HARLEY, to RICHARD SANKEY, at Mr. Cole's House in Channel Row, Westminster.

1641, March 28—I must pray you to write me every week how things go on in the Parliament. I hear many rumours but nothing certainly. I enclose a letter for my sister Conway. I pray you be careful of your master.

EDWARD PERKINS to EDWARD HARLEY, at his lodging near the Bull Tavern within the Palace.

1641, March 31—We are sick with expectation what will be the issue of the present grave business, and we are tortured with the diversities of relations. We burnt two "Pocklingtons" with a great deal of solemnity, but when "Pawns" was burnt, sixty of them were burnt. Our *placet* was asked, but some were told, though privately, to say they would not give theirs.

BRILLIANA, LADY HARLEY to her husband, SIR ROBERT HARLEY.

1641, April 1. Brampton—Giving family news. *Signet.*

The SAME to the SAME.

1641, April 2. Brampton — I think this country is worse than any, for they are averse to all that is good; yet I do not repent that my lot falls in it because I am yours. In home I think I am happy. I hear that Lady Vere has come to London. I wish Brill were with her. *Signet.*

EDWARD PERKINS to EDWARD HARLEY, at his lodgings within the Palace near the Bull Tavern, Westminster.

1641, April 12. Oxford—I feared what would be the issue of your long stay in London. I know it is not our conventicle which has made you afraid of Magdalen Hall, but there are some who will not stick to say so. Please notice the Vice-Chancellor's carriage about Doctor Pocklington's book. Two burnt, but three sent in to him. One was sent back to Mr. Forrest by the beadle.

The SAME to the SAME.

1641, April 19, Magdalen Hall—The laundress has disappointed me so I cannot send your trunk.

The SAME to the SAME.

1641, May 3—The slow pace of the Earl's business has cast many a damp on us, and we are doubtful what will be the success.

JOHN TOMBES to SIR ROBERT HARLEY.

1641, May 3, Leominster—"Forasmuch as your faithfulness for the cause of Christ is approved, and you have hitherto given me leave to open my brest to you, I presume to give you some intelligence of the state of this place, a considerable parte of that country with whose affaires you are interisted. Hearing of the proceedings in the house of Commons concerning communion tables and canons, I caused in December last the communion table in my church which had bene in Bishop Wren's time, and by Mr. Brabazon, than churchwarden of this parish, his appointment, turned alter-wise, to be placed with the two sides north and south, and began to disuse the surplice, and the crosse at baptizing, which hath so nettled the ignorant and superstitious of this countrey that as the cathedrall men seeke to sting me, so the common people exclaime much against me, which moves me little, but onely occasions me to move you not to forget the endeavoureing that there may be some maintenance for preachers in this countrey, almost all unpropriate to the Bishop, to bring them from theire ignorance, superstition, etc. But I intreate you further to take notice that as in the constant course of his actions my neighbour, Mr. Brabazon hath declared himselfe an adversary to preaching, an abettour of superstition and other evils, to the greate hinderance of the fruits of the gospell, so specially of late, he as a man inraged, not onely brake out into reviling speeches on Tuesday in Easter weeke charging me with grievous crimes for turning the communion table from the altar situation, for disusing the ceremonies, and threatning me for so doing, and disturbing our election of churchwardens, as not brooking the choice of any one that is zealous for religion; but also making use of his power of a commissioner for the assesing the subsidies, specially to lay burdens as on my selfe, so on any other that he doeth conceive favours religion. Which thinges I presume to informe you in that we may have your helpe to abate his power, which we see is wholy bent to blast any beginnings of godlines, or goode designe for promoting of godlines. And I humbly request you would give us some intimation in as private a way as you please when there may be a fitt time to complaine of his practises to the House of Commons."

Postscript. "I finde that I am very odious to the cathedrall, non-preaching, scandalous, ministers of this county for my endeavours to certify you of the estate of the ministry in this county."

SIR R. H[ARLEY] and F. C[ONINGSBY] to the HIGH SHERIFF and JUSTICES OF THE PEACE in Herefordshire.

1641, May 8. The Commons House—The inclosed protestation will represent to you the prudent zeal and care of the House of Commons in asserting the truth of our holy religion from popish innovations. *Copy.*

BRILLIANA HARLEY to her brother, EDWARD HARLEY, at Mr. Smith's house in the Old Bailey, London.

1641, May 12. Brampton—I am glad to hear that both Houses of Parliament are so well agreed that the Earl of Strafford was so near his execution. My brothers agues have left them. My sister and I have escaped the ague.

EDWARD PERKINS to EDWARD HARLEY, at his lodgings in Westminster.

1641, May 17. Oxford—Concerning taking his name off the college books.

The Same to the Same, in Cursitor Street, near Lincoln's Inn.

1641, May 22. Magdalen Hall.—The bearer has come to inform against the great Dean Fell and the wolf who has worried them so long. I am well persuaded of the Puritanism of these prosecutors.

The Same to the Same.

1641, May 23. Magdalen Hall—Concerning disagreements at Oxford.

Richard Gardiner to Edward Harley.

1641, June 5—Concerning the election of the Vice-Chancellor of the University [of Oxford].

Brilliana Harley to her brother, Edward Harley, in London.

1641, June 5. Brampton—Asking him to write to her.

The House of Lords.

1641, June 12—The Lords votes upon the Canons. *See House of Lords Journals. Same date.*

The House of Commons.

1641, June 18—Order to Sir Robert to present petitions on trade. *See Journals of the House of Commons. Same date.*

Brilliana, Lady Harley to her husband, Sir Robert Harley.

[1641, June ?]—Ned Harley's letter this week did much satisfy us. For on that debate in the House, the news in the country was that the Parliament stood upon "tickell termes."

Thomas Harley to his brother, Edward Harley, in London.

1641, June 21. Brampton—I hear that the bill for the extirpation of all Archbishops and all the cursed —— (in cipher) is passed in the Commons.

John Hall to Sir Robert Harley, in London.

1641 "anno renovationis," June 21—A religious letter.

Edward Perkins to [Edward Harley].

1641, June 21. Oxford—I desire to hear the confirmation of our episcopal news and how the bill will pass among the peers which we hear is voted in the House of Commons. I must entreat the bill you had of your predecessor in your chamber, otherwise it will be impossible to take up the thirds.

Christopher Rogers to Edward Harley, at his father's lodging in Westminster.

1641, June 28. New Inn Hall, Oxford—The Archbishop our Chancellor has sent to us a resignation of his Chancellorship, so to-morrow we are to choose another. My Lord Chamberlain will be the man. *Signet.*

The House of Commons.

1641, June 29 — Appointment of a committee concerning the exclusion of the counties of Gloucester, Worcester, Hereford, and Salop from the jurisdiction of the President and Council of Wales. *See House of Commons Journals, same date.*

1641, June 30.—Notes of the proceedings of the committee.

Edward Perkins to Edward Harley, at Palace Yard, Westminster.

1641, June—On University business.

The Same to the Same.

Same date—On the same business. *Signet.*

The Same to the Same.

1641, July 1—On the same business.

J. Crosse to ——.

1641—On University matters.

Roger Kilvert to the Houses of Parliament.

1641, July 2—Petition against the exportation of gold and silver out of the kingdom. *Copy.*

Thomas Harley to his brother, Edward Harley, at the Woolstaple, Westminster.

1641, July 2. Brampton—Giving family news.

Anna Davies to Edward Harley.

1641, July 2. Coxhall—On private affairs.

Robert Bidwell and Robert Howle to the House of Commons.

1641, July 7—Petition concerning grievances of the county of Radnor.

J. Crosse to Edward Harley, in Palace Yard.

1641, July 7—Concerning the canons.

M. Oldsworth to his cousin, Sir Robert Harley, or his son.

1641, July 7. Whitehall—Asking for the loan of the register book of the University of Oxford. *Signet.*

Edward Perkins to Edward Harley.

1641, July 7. Magdalen Hall—Concerning the canons and the Thirty-nine Articles.

F. Viscountess Conway to her nephew, Colonel Harley.

1641, July 25. Ragley Lodge—My sons are both safely arrived. The youngest is here, but my eldest son has gone to London. *Signet.*

JOHN MYLLES to EDWARD HARLEY, in the Woolstaple in Westminster.

1641, July 26. Christ Church, Oxford—On behalf of the students of Christ Church. *Signet.*

BRILLIANA HARLEY to her brother, EDWARD HARLEY.

1641, July 27. Brampton—Giving family news.

JOHN MYLLES to EDWARD HARLEY.

1641, August 4. Christ Church, Oxford—I am sorry that your "remonstrance" proceeds so slowly. It is now complete and going abroad for signature. It falls at an ill time because many are out of town this vacation who would have joined in it.

STANLEY GOWER to SIR ROBERT HARLEY.

1641, August 9, Brampton—"It is a kind of sacriledge to interrupt your many publique and weighty businesses with the reading of one so scribled a letter as now I send you, yet I had rather do it, than neglect my duty. Your last letters have sett us more to prayer for you; because we understand God's arrowe of pestilence, pox, and spotted feaver, a[re] flying about yow; cause of fear I confes to the worser part of your assembly, but of fayth to yow who are thither sent by God for the good of. . . . Church and countrey and therefore answearing the Lord's end, are under the p. . . Psal. 91. Yow shall eyther therefore find the faythfullness thereof in kind or in value, and be eyther protected from it or the fear that accompanys it, which is indeed [the] evill and plague of it. Howbeit God's anger is not turned away, but [His] hand is stretched out still; the Lord discover every thing to yow that no[thing] be unfound. Methinks it would gett bishops down with ease and acclamation if the Governmentt by commission were returnd up into parliament so that the comissi[oners] were honest men, for they have had eighty yeares tyme, the favour of princes . . a great power in theyr hands, and yet in Wales scarce the Gospell of J[esus] Christ knowne; in Herefordshire—as if yow looke upon the surveys—of two hundred and twenty-five if I mistake not churches and chappells that are oures, but twenty constant prechers that preach twice a day. Of these, one hundred in the Bishop and church [of] Hereford's disposall, and never a one of the twenty in any of them and t[he] nearer to the sea the worse, for in Hereford not one in that grea[t] citty, yet there be twelve vicars which supply fourteen churches by their sub-curates, and [if] the kingdome were surveiyed I beleeve a like sound would come from other— if not from all—countys, that do from ours. And whether this governmentt can [be] reformed unles it be destroyed is easy to determine, seeing all the bishops w[ho are] not of our stampe in these places, the good might theretor have redressed . . . the bad would not. No, the fault is not personall but officall, and to [have] redresse the governmentt must be sett upon a new base. My poore thoughts are with yow already in the causes and cares annexed to the surve. . . . next the bishops there are rumores on both sydes, that I trust your wisdome will remoove. On the one syde papists that erect theyr Babel amongst us; on the other syde, Brownists that discourage your reformation of our Zion, whilst they contend for theyr independent governmentt, theyr seyres and auncestors the Anabaptists did hinder the reformation in the dayes of Luther, and brought boores to ware against the protestant princes, till at length by strict lawes and

Luther's vehement wryting and preaching against them t[hey] were taken out of the way. It were good—methinks—that your honorable hous[e] should timely meet with this anarchy and confusion, that being conceived . . . reforme under another intention, the worke might be hastened. I can as s[ure]yow the best ministers complayne in severall countrys how much they suffer . . . with that schysme. When yow please to bring L. Cant. to tryall, methinks the Deane and chapter of Hereford being required—for els I doubt they will no[t] might give good evidence, concernig a papall letter, he sent them when. . . . Linsell days the tooke away theyr liberty and visittd them, not without oppo[sition] wherein 'tis voyced he sayd; the king neyther would nor should take aw[ay] any libertys from the Church or words to that effect. They cannot chuse b[ut] keepe the . . . Mr. Dallys testimony I showed yow and Mr. Corbett who th[ought] it would be materiall when the Bishop spake in open court, that if he . . . he would have the Lord Maior know that the sword of Justice shall not usurpe the jurisdiction of the church. This he is able to depose, and I beleeve can remember some others that heard the same, that were present in court." *Seal of arms.*

Sir H. Vane to Sir Robert Harley.

[1641], August 25. Holyrood House—Here is "arrived Mr. Nicolles a messenger sent from both Houses to prepare the way for the reception of those members that are coming down to attend his Majesty from both Houses. I will not say anythinge more of his employment, but referr you to his relation. I shall conclude with telling you his Majesty, thanks be unto God, is in perfite health, labors in his affayres from morninge until night out of desire to hasten his returne for the south. Hee and his people will certainly agree heare. This day General Lesly with the Scottishe army, passes the Tweed, and soe they are to disband, most of them by regiments, several wayes, uneless itt [be] those as are northwest of this towne, and are to pass heare, wheare appeares nothinge more them heartiness and sinceritie to the securinge and holdinge of this happie peace and union made betwixt the two nations." *Signet.*

Brilliana, Lady Harley to her husband, Sir Robert Harley.

1641, September 2. Brampton—I shall be very glad for Brill to go to Lady Vere; when you come I hope you will think of the best way of her going. *Signet.*

House of Commons.

1641, September 9—Order concerning innovations in religion and the taking down of altars and crucifixes. *See Calendar of State Papers Domestic, same date.*

John Upton.

1641, September 11—An epitaph in verse. *Printed.*

Kingsland Church.

1641, October 2—Certificate by John Hughes the rector, and others, that the communion table is turned as it was in former times and that the rails in front are taken down. *Signed.*

Sir R. H[arley] to—Bradford and—Blashfield, churchwardens of the parish of Leominster.

1641, October 8. Brampton—"In my returne on Wednesday last from the quarter sessions at Hereford, I beheld in your church yard of Lempster one crucifix uppon the great stone crosse there, and an other crucifix of stone over the church portch, and in the great window in the west end of the church two crucifixes painted and other scandalouse pictures of the persons of the Trinity, and in the great window in the east end of the church one other crucifix painted, all which I doe require you to abolish, according to the order of the House of Commons, which I send you herewith, as alsoe to see carefully performed the further directions of the sayd order." *Draft.*

Brilliana, Lady Harley to her husband [Sir Robert Harley].

1641, October 25. Brampton—I rejoice to hear of your safe arrival in London. I am sorry to hear my sister Wake is so ill. My cousin Vaughan died on Sunday last.

Sir Richard Newport to his brother [-in-law], Sir Robert Harley, in London.

1641, November 1. High Ercall—My son will acquaint you with particulars in the great business which concerns him and me. His part is to choose by affection. I rely upon you for virtue and religious education for I know not when I shall see the lady or confer with any that knew her. *Signet.*

Brilliana, Lady Harley to her husband, Sir Robert Harley.

1641, November 5. Brampton—On family matters. *Signet.*

The Same to the Same.

1641, November 12—Pray God appease this stir in Ireland. I enclose a letter from my cousin Coningsby. I wrote her word I would let you know what she desired. If he be put out of the House I hope they will be careful to choose a good one.

The Same to the Same.

1641, November 13. Brampton—Mr. Cochran tells me you desire Sir Robert Whiting's son should be chosen in Mr. Coningsby's place in the Parliament. I had hoped that Sir William Croft would be chosen. *Signet.*

The Same to the Same.

1641, November 20. Brampton—I have, according to your directions, caused a good provision of bullets to be made and the pieces charged. There are no men in the house except Samuel and another.

I do not propose this out of fear but out of care for the children, whether you think it would not be best for me and the children with no more servants than necessary to take a house in some town. I think Shrewsbury is the best to go to. If the Papists should rise or there should be any commotion, to my apprehension a town is safest. There is more defence, and if it be taken they go out upon some good conditions.

For my part, if we should be put to it, I do not believe we at Brampton should be able to stand siege. I do not say this out of fear, but I think I judge aright.

If you think there is cause to suspect the rising of the Papists and approve of removing to some town and like Shrewsbury best, if you please to give me directions I will as carefully follow as I can and take few with me and cut off the charges of keeping many at Brampton. I hope the Lord will enable me to undergo such a journey. If you consent I shall think he calls me to it.

Ned Harley is very well and very busy taking care of the house, and Mr. Floyd does me good service. I thank God the children are not very afraid.

The report is for certain that Mr. Coningsby's son shall be chosen in his father's place. Mr. Whiting stands, so none of your tenants are gone as I had no orders for whom they should go.

I hope you will not be displeased that I have sent Colburne on purpose to put you in mind whether it be best to remove from Brampton or some town or no. I desire you to ask my brother what his opinion is. Ned Harley is so far from thinking of a place of safety that he does not think the Papists have any strength, in which I think he is mistaken.

I am very glad the plague is abated. It may be Ned Harley will send you word the house is very strong, but I believe it is not.

The Same to the Same.

Same date and place.—On family matters. *Signet.*

The Same to the Same, at Mr. Burgh's house in Little Britain.

1641, December 4—It is my great joy that I have such a dear husband, who I know will always take care of my children and myself. What you think best to be done I most willingly yield to. *Signet.*

The Same to the Same.

1641, December 11—I hope with you that the Papists will not attempt anything, though I do not think it is good to be too secure.

I send you a little box of quince cakes to put in your pocket. I hope you will like them.

I think it was a great work that the King was pleased to use those of the Parliament with such grace that brought him the petition and remonstrance. The Lord in mercy purge his church from all these things that have offended, and give you all in the Parliament, that those that seek for an occasion in the Parliament may find none.

The Same to the Same.

1641, December 17. Brampton—I thank you for writing me word of the vote which passed the House, never to tolerate Popery.

My brother Pelham writes me word that his tenants "turne up his land into his hand," which is a great trouble to him. *Signet.*

Thomas Lawrence to Michael Oldsworth, Secretary to the Earl of Pembroke and Montgomery, at Durham House.

1641, December 20. Balliol College, Oxford—Asking him to get the college statute book and register, and the register of the Treasury from Sir Robert Harley. *Receipt of the books from Sir Robert Harley acknowledged by Mr. Oldsworth on the* 14 *January.* 1641[–2].

The House of Commons to Sir Robert Harley.

1641, December 23—Order to return to Balliol College their books which had been sent up for the purposes of the Universities Committee.

Thomas Lawrence to Michael Oldsworth, at Durham House.

1641[-2], January 3. Balliol College, Oxford—I desire you will assure Sir Robert Harley that the books will be ready when called for. *Signet.*

Brilliana, Lady Harley to her husband, Sir Robert Harley.

1641[-2], January 10. Brampton—Your letter was very welcome, for I was in many fears, having heard on Saturday night that many of the House of Commons were accused of treason. *Signet.*

F. Cheynell to Sir Robert Harley.

1641[-2], January 12. Oxford—I believe you have lately heard me sharply censured for my indiscreet zeal against Arminianism. When you are more at leisure I will give you a punctual relation of all passages.

Brilliana, Lady Harley to her husband, Sir Robert Harley.

1641[-2], January 15. Brampton—The news of the accusation of Lord Mandeville and the five of the House of Commons made all good hearts sad. They have made a petition at Hereford for bishops. Lord Scudamore was the first to set his hand to it.

Mr. Wigmore told me to-day that as he came from Hereford he was informed that the Papists were arming themselves.

The Same to the Same, at Mr. Cote's House in Channel Row.

Same date and place.—I was in great fear till I received your letter. Dear sir, for my sake be careful of yourself. *Signet.*

Sir Robert Harley to his brother[-in-law], Sir Richard Newport, at High Ercall.

1641[-2], January 21. London—Concerning the settlements to be made upon the marriage of Sir Richard Newport's son with (Lady Diana Russell), the daughter of the late Earl of Bedford.

Sir Richard Newport to his brother[-in-law], Sir Robert, Harley.

1641[-2], January 28. High Ercall—On the same business as the preceding letter. *Signet.*

Brilliana, Lady Harley to her husband, Sir Robert Harley.

1641[-2], January 29. Brampton—On family affairs. *Signet.*

The Same to the Same.

1641[-2], February 1—I should be glad if you would give me a mourning gown for my sister Wake. I should like the stuff to be grogram, it is a plain silk stuff. *Signet.*

ISAAC SEWARD, High Sheriff of Herefordshire to SIR ROBERT HARLEY, at Channel Row, Westminster.

1641[-2], February 7. Leominster—Acknowledging the receipt of a lettter from the Speaker and complaining that he found the Justices very cold in assisting him to carry out the order which came from both Houses for securing the county and the magazines. *Signed. Signet.*

The SAME to the SAME.

[1642, February]—Complaining of Thomas Tanner of Leominster, who spoke evilly of puritans and kept company with papists. *Signed.*

STANLEY GOWER to SIR ROBERT HARLEY.

1641, February 10. Brampton—On religious topics.

BRILLIANA, LADY HARLEY to her husband, SIR ROBERT HARLEY.

164[2], February 11. Brampton—I thank God you were employed in that good work to carry up the bill against bishops, and I bless God that the bill did pass the Lords House. I trust the Lord will finish his own work which he has carried on so beyond our expectations.

I pray you receive my thanks for your letter and the book of Sir Edward Deering who has showed in the end what his heart was in the beginning.

The HOUSE OF COMMONS.

1641[-2], February 14—The names of the Committee concerning Pluralities. *See Journals of the House of Commons, same date.*

The KING to the HOUSES OF PARLIAMENT.

1641[-2], February 14—A message. *See Journals of the House of Commons, same date. Printed.*

ROBERT CROSSE to SIR ROBERT HARLEY.

1641[-2], February 14. Lincoln College—Asking him to assist the candidature of Mr. Pocock, of Corpus Christi College, for the place of Margaret Professor, against Doctor Laurence, who had carried the place of late years without rival. *Signet.*

BRILLIANA, LADY HARLEY to her husband, SIR ROBERT HARLEY.

1641[-2], February 17. Brampton—Please send me word what I should give to the relief of Ireland, "for that Act is come downe."

The SAME to the SAME.

1641[-2], February 19—I must rejoice in the gracious answer of the King to the Parliament.

ISAAC SEWARD to SIR ROBERT HARLEY.

1641[-2], February 19. Leominster—Enclosing an order purporting to be signed by the King, but not sealed, directing him to publish the message of the 14th February, and enquiring whether it be really the King's signature or not. *Signet.*

GEORGE [COKE], BISHOP OF HEREFORD to SIR ROBERT HARLEY.

1641[2], February 27. The Tower—I have to move for your assistance in this present danger. You can testify better than anyone what my life and carriage has been in my diocese. *Signet.*

JOHN TOMBES to SIR ROBERT HARLEY, at Channel Row, Westminster.

1641[–2], March 5. Leominster—I have enquired of our bailiff, and he tells me he knows of no commission sent down to our town by the burgesses to tender the oaths of supremacy and allegiance to the inhabitants.

WALLOP BRABAZON, SIR WILLIAM CROFT, and others [Justices of the Peace] to SIR ROBERT HARLEY and HUMPHRY CONINGSBY.

1641[–2], March 5. Hereford—Soon after the coming of the protestation, sent from the House of Commons, some of the justices of the peace of the county met and made their protestations according to the printed copy. We cannot, however, find the list of the names of the justices who made their protestations. The same was also performed by the chief officers of this city and of Leominster and Weobly and elsewhere, and they advised those who had any scruple in respect of their not understanding the power of Parliament and the lawfulness of making any new oath, that as it was a voluntary act, they had the power of interpretation in themselves, and might make it without danger. Now, however, as the protestation comes recommended by the Speaker's letter, though only signified as the desire of the House of Commons, yet as we are directed to call the whole county before us, we know not how to do it except by our warrants to the inferior officers. In that we conceive we have as little authority as to tender the protestation to anyone; and as we are to certify the names, as well of those who refuse as of those who take it, it seems to us not to be so voluntary as that anyone can be admitted to their own interpretation, which we hold most needful, especially in the matter of privilege of Parliaments, whereof we are not ashamed to confess our ignorance, as it has raised questions between the King and both Houses, and the Houses themselves. We conceive, however, that these differences are now laid at rest by the King's gracious messages, of which we already find good effects, not only in the bills he has lately passed, but in purging this Cathedral Church of "copes, candlesticks, basons, altars, with bowing and other reverences unto it," for upon the signification of the King's pleasure, the reverend doctors of this church did remove these things which of late, by the authority of a former bishop, had been brought in after long discontinuance. So we are in hopes that Popery and all such shows in other churches will be taken away, and the uniformity of Common Prayer established, and that the "sectaries, separtistes, and all such recusants" may be brought again under the obedience of the laws. *Copy.*

F. FROST to SIR ROBERT HARLEY, at Channel Row, Westminster.

1641[–2], March 12. Chester—Concerning biscuit, butter, cheese, bread, oats, and oatmeal to be shipped to Dublin. *Signet.*

THOMAS FROYSELL to SIR ROBERT HARLEY.

1642, March 25. Clun—The warden of our hospital is past recovery, and Mr. T. Moore and I have thought of one, Thomas Bright, to succeed him. I beg that you will solicit Sir R. Howard in his behalf. *Signet.*

The EARL OF WARWICK to SIR ROBERT HARLEY.

1642, March 26. London—Upon my petition, delivered last Wednesday by Mr. Pym, concerning the taking off of the sequestration of the Letter Office, which is legally vested in me by assignment from Mr. Withrings, order was given that a report of the Foreign Office should be made, which Mr. Glyn promised should be made. My request to you is, at the next sitting of the House, to call upon Mr. Glyn to make this report, and that you would consider that the foreign and inland offices are both in one sequestration, which is contrary to the fundamental laws, and one of the great burdens this kingdom has long groaned under. It is sequestrated into the hands of Burlamachi, a stranger—against whom there is a statute of bankruptcy—and a person not able to answer the profits which he hath received for twenty months together. *Signed. Seal of arms.*

NATHANIEL TOMKINS to [SIR ROBERT HARLEY].

1642, April 8. Holborn—The accounts of the Queen's receiver have been declared at Denmark House, and your servant, John Wall, appears to be 180*l.* in arrear, whereupon order was given that this office should be sequestrated. I beg that you will see that the Queen sustains no damage in the matter, and that you will take care that for the time to come, the rents and profits of the Manor of Kingsland are collected by some responsible person.

DOCTOR ROGERS.

1642, April 27—Part of a sermon by Dr. Rogers, in which he compares King Charles with David. He refers to the preachers Drew and Wall, one of whom preached on the lines—

When Adam delved and Eve span,
Who was then the gentleman?

WALLOP BRABAZON, SIR WILLIAM CROFT, and others [Justices of the Peace], to [SIR ROBERT HARLEY and HUMPHRY CONINGSBY].

1642, April 28. Hereford—Your letter of the 28th March in answer to ours of the 5th March was delivered on the 15th April. Since you can give us no more light, we can discern no other way than we formerly took. *A long and acrimonious letter concerning the protestation. Copy.*

JOHN MYLLES to EDWARD HARLEY, at Westminster.

1642, May 2. Christ Church, Oxford—As our former warrants perished without fruit, through the absence of the Dean and Doctor Morris, we are enforced to crave your assistance to this bearer, one of our delegates, to have them renewed to another day of appearance.

STANLEY GOWER to SIR ROBERT HARLEY.

1642, May 8. Brampton—Your worthy endeavours for the public have public opposers in our county. The pulpit is made a stage, wherein to act their parts against the Parliament. Doctor Rogers and Mr. Mason and Mr. Sherburn are the leaders of the schism. I know not whether they have taught some of our gentry or these them; but they strive who shall outvye the other in their railing rhetoric. Hereford was wont to be scarce of preaching, now they have set up a "pasquill" in opposition to some few who were endeavouring to bring an edifying lecture into the city.

I left Mistress Brilliana well beyond Worcester, heard she was well at Islip, and hope she came well to London.

ISAAC SEWARD to SIR ROBERT HARLEY, in Channel Row, near Westminster.

1642, May 9. Leominster—Informing him that at the meeting of the Commissioners at Hereford concerning the sum of 7,146*l.* levied upon the county, the matter had been deferred in hopes of an abatement. *Signet.*

BRILLIANA, LADY HARLEY to her husband, SIR ROBERT HARLEY.

1642, May 9—I believe you have heard of the taking of Hereford by Sir William Waller, and upon what conditions rendered. God has been mightily seen in this country, for now all of them are taken. Sir William Croft, Mr. Coningsby, and Sir Walter Pye with those that were in Gloucester before, who were taken at Highnam, are in Gloucester. Mr. Lingen is set at liberty with all his troop, I hear for the ransom of 500*l.*

Sir William Waller is come safe to Gloucester, but poor Herefordshire is left in a poor case for there is no one to govern it. I am still enforced to be as I was to look to my guard.

Little Peggy has put her knee out of joint, and I cannot get any bone-setter, so that I must send her to Coventry.

LORD STRANGE to SIR ROBERT HARLEY.

1642, May 13—"God is the same now that he was last year, and I trust that his mercies will ever be unto this nation; wee scap'd the imminent danger of warr with Scotland, and God forbid that wee should warr one heere with an other. In his good time give peace in Irelande, and give us grace to warne us by the evills there, and seeke to settle peace among ourselves. Sir Charles Coote they saye, is slain by one of his owne soldiers. And indeed if noe more haste be made to succour those that manfully have held out untill now, it will be a shame unto our nation. God forgive those that hinder soe good a worke, and bless you and all the good ones that praie for peace, of which number I am one." *Signet.*

BRILLIANA, LADY HARLEY to her husband, SIR ROBERT HARLEY.

1642, May 13. Brampton—I hope you will not think I write too often. I hope the King has sent a more gracious answer to the Parliament. I hope you will consider the sermon Doctor Rogers preached, that nothing may be done to restrain them. *Signet.*

The Same to the Same.

1642, June 4. Brampton—I wrote you word yesterday that Sir William Croft said his mother had no power to sell the arms at Croft, so I sent no one to see them.

The country grows very insolent, and if there should be any rising I think I am in a very unsafe place. In my opinion it would be much better for me to be in London. There is nobody in the country who loves you or me. I am glad to hear you are so cheerful in these troublous times. *Signet.*

The Same to the Same.

1642, June 10. Brampton—I hope the Lords will return from the King to the Parliament, which I hope will do much good.

I believe you remember that the fair is to-morrow. I wish they may be all quiet for they are grown extremely insolent.

Stanley Gower to Sir Robert Harley, in Channel Row, Westminster.

1642, June 20. Brampton—The wonders of God in this Parliament will never be forgotten, you are his most famous witnesses, and yet not seen.

Robert Harley to his brother, Edward Harley.

1642, June 21. Brampton—My mother has been very well this month. I thank you for your good counsel, but there is no health of body without exercise, nor of the mind as long as it is in hope one while, in fear another while, and in pain another while. *Signet.*

Brilliana, Lady Harley to her daughter, Brilliana Harley.

1642, June 25—I have had no letter from you this week. You have forgotten how glad I am to hear from you. I believe you will not often fall into this fault. Be careful to please Lady Vere, for I believe there is not a wiser or better woman. Omit not private duties and keep a strict watch upon yourself, that no passion prevail upon you. Remember you have many eyes upon you. I would have you send down the two handkerchiefs my sister Conway made for me.

Brilliana, Lady Harley to her husband, Sir Robert Harley.

1642, June 27. Brampton—I enclose notes of another sermon of Doctor Rogers. I think if he goes on in this way it would be well if he were sent for. I think it is intolerable that a man should so scandalize such an assembly as the Parliament.

The Same to the Same.

1642, June 28. Brampton—On family matters. *Signet.*

John Wancklen to Sir Robert Harley.

1642, July 1. Hereford—Mr. Gower has informed you of the sermons preached by Doctor Rogers in our Cathedral. This day he had three passages in a sermon, that as the limb of a man is not a man, as a body without a head, no more is the Parliament a Parliament

without the King. He also compared the taking away of the magazine at Hull to a man robbing by the highway pretending he did it to give to the poor; and he said that Sir John Hotham was a traitor for keeping the King out of Hull. The Dean has also preached a very pestilent sermon against London and the Parliament. I am in fear of my life, these men have wrought such hatred in the hearts of the people against me. I pray you have Doctor Rogers sent for, that the rest may take warning by him.

The King to James Croft.

1642, July 4. York—Warrant authorising him to raise a troop of Horse for the King's special service. *Copy.*

Brilliana, Lady Harley to her husband, Sir Robert Harley.

1642, July 5. Brampton—I cannot but give you timely notice of what is done in this country. On Saturday these Justices were called to Hereford, Sir William Croft, Sir John Kyrle, Sir Ralph Hopton, Mr. Rudall, Mr. Lingen, Mr. Scudamore of Lenchurch, and the two other Scudamores, Mr. Bratson, Mr. Wigmore, and one more. They were to send for the Sheriff and call out the militia. They say they have reason to do it upon the King's command, for they hear nothing of the Parliament. I pray you send me directions what we are to do for I think we are in danger, but I am not afraid.

I hear they are to put out all the old captains. They have summoned the trained bands to be at Hereford on Saturday. I fear they will attempt to seize upon the arms which I have.

The Same to the Same.

1642, July 8—I am not at all unwilling to send the plate up but I cannot get a truck big enough this week to send it up; by next week I hope to provide it. Be pleased to let me know whether you would have me send up all the plate but the spoons, or only that which you mentioned in your letter, which is only the voyder and knife—and plates and salts.

If you write by the post I shall have it time enough to send that week, but I think I must send it "at twice" lest the weight discover what it is.

The High Sheriff has sent forth the warrants that the trained bands should appear at Hereford on the 15th. Mr. Broughton tells me that he and Mr. Kirk and yourself are put out of the commission of the peace as Sir Robert Whiting brags. Your company as they say, they will offer to your son; if he will not accept it they will give it to another. Mr. Scudamore is captain of the horse.

If you thought it good, I should be very glad to be out of this country. If I boarded with some friend for a time. I pray you consider it, for I account myself amongst my enemies. Many are troubled what they shall do if they are required to find arms, for they are resolved not to do it.

The Same to the Same.

1642, July 9. Brampton—I found I could not have any trunk so I took this hamper which I had in the house, which I hope will come safe.

In it are the voyder and knife and nine candlesticks, a dozen and a half of plates and a salt. What else you please I will send next week. *Signet.*

ISAAC SEWARD, Sheriff of Herefordshire to SIR ROBERT HARLEY.

1642, July 11. Leominster—I have received your letter and the declaration of the House of Commons concerning the Commission of Array. The undersheriff promises to perform the command on Tuesday at the quarter sessions at Hereford. As regards the business of 400,000*l.*, I wrote to you why we could not "cease" it, because the Mayor and his brethren would not join with us or accept of a sum from us; however the mayor agreed to write to the borough members and the Commissioners agreed to write to the Speaker, but they have received no answer to their letter. Such money as came to my hands for Ireland I have paid in, except a small sum in hand. *Signet.*

BRILLIANA, LADY HARLEY to her husband, SIR ROBERT HARLEY.

1642, July 13. Brampton—Let me earnestly desire you to consider whether it is safe for me and my children to be at Brampton. I hear the King will have an army to cut off all that are for the Parliament. Many in this country say within six weeks all the Puritans shall be rid out of the country.

I verily believe I shall find Sir William Croft a most violent man, for so he shows himself and his sister. Robin Croft is come out of Ireland. They say Mr. Coningsby has a hundred volunteers.

If you think it best for me to stay I shall be content, but I have little joy to stay when I see how little they care for you who are worth ten hundred thousand of them. I pray God bless Ned and Brill. *Signet.*

HEREFORDSHIRE.

1642, July 14—"The trained bands beinge come into Hereford, the drums beat up to call together the souldiers; then the comissionors read the comission of array, under the towne hall—in the presents of a few of the souldiers and many others—which comission was read in Laten—as I was tould, I not beinge present—few understandinge it. After which, the drums beat up, and havinge drawne ech company to waite upon their colours, the comissionors goinge downe to Wigmarsh, the bounds marching after them, which beinge come thether, each captaine sets his bound in order, which being done, the comissionors together with the shereffe—who is one in comission—vewed Captain Skidmor's band, which appeared very fully. Then Captain Skidmore and his officers caled over his bound by the list, and vewed their armes. After which, he tould them he would have them all in redineſs if there were any occation to use them—as he hoped thire would not—and that they should goe no further than he whent. So in like manner, the rest of the captains, viz., Captain Wigmore and Captain Slaughter caled over there bounds—all which made a very good appearance—Then the comissionors joyninge together, caled up that bound which was Sir Robert Harley's, and caled it over by the list, first calinge the captain—Sir Robert Harley—then the officers of the bound amongest which onely one drum and the ancient appeared. In callinge over the souldiers, many were found absent, and so defalted to the number, as was conceived, of forty or fifty. This beinge done, the commissionors authorished Mr. Cuninsbey to be captain of the said bound—in the roome of Sir

Robert Harley—and so gaive notice of it to the anctient and some others, who said if they must loose thire old captain, they willingly imbrased Mr. Cuninsbey rather then any man. Sirjant Major—Cuninsbey's sonn—was also made leifetennant of the bound, who forthwith set upon the execution of his office. Then the comissionors tould the bound that they and the rest must be drawne al together to heare somethinge from the Kinge. Then the comissionors went to vew the troope of horse, but in the way a captain of about one hundred and fifty volunteers out of Hereford, presented the comissionors with a vew of his bound—all unarmed men onely som had sowrds—and tould them he found a good affection in them all to do the Kinge servis. The comissionors said it was well if it were reall; upon which, the captain and som other officers demanded—through the bound—thire willingnes and reality to serve the Kinge; which thing the Kinge comissionors desyred to know. Then they all threue up thire hatts and cryed 'God save the Kinge,' and many of them againe cryed, 'For the Kinge, for the Kinge.' This beinge done, the comissionors passed on to the troope of horse and caled them over by the list—but first caled the officers of the troope, of which few or none appeared—which list containes—as I heare—ninety-two; of which appeared about thirty in the feild, and some others were excused, but very many nether appeared nor excused. Then the comissionors returninge from the troope, the captain of the volunteers presented his bound to them againe and tould them he should have as many more very shortely. The comissionors departinge, the volunteers cryed, 'God bless the nine wortheys of Hereford-sheire.' After this all the trained bounds were drawne into one intyre body, a table beinge placed in the midst of them, the comissionors standinge about it, the cryer from them command silence. Then Mr. Edmonds, clerk of the peace, stood upon the table and read a letter from his Majestie, declaringe that he had had a declaration of the good affection of this county, so he doubted not of a further manifestation or expression of thire loyalty in doinge him servis. Thire was also declared his Majestie's pleasure in authorisinge Mr. Robert Croft for the command of what horse shall be sent in to his Majestie out of this county in a free and voluntary way—as I conseave. Moreover it was declared that what money or plate shall be sent in to his Majestie—by his loveinge subjects of this county—it must goe to York and be delivered to the controuler of his Majestie's houshould who is authorised for the purpose.

After this, was read the resolution of Hereford-sheire, against which noe man—that I heard of—objected; which beinge done, they all cryed "God save the Kinge," and then departed the feild.

The bound of volunteers marchinge first into towne, when they came to enter the gate of the citty, put all thire hatts upon thire sticke ends and held them up with a greet acclamation for the Kinge.

The forme of the comission of array was the same that Lecester-sheire was. They of the quorum in it were Prince John, Earle of Bridgwaters, the Lord Skidmore, and Wallopp Bropson (Brabazon) Esq. The nam of the captain of the volunteers is Barrell."

BRILLIANA, LADY HARLEY to her husband, SIR ROBERT HARLEY.

1643, July 15—Since you think Brampton a safe place for me I will think so too; and I would not for anything do that which might make the world believe our hope did begin to fail in our God. But be pleased to send me directions what I should do if there should be any stirs. I should be loath to have Ned Harley come down, for I think he is safest where he is, and I verily believe they would do injury to him.

I sent for Mr. Davis of Wigmore and let him know you desired him to go to Hereford when the soldiers were summoned, which was yesterday. He was unwilling to go being persuaded he should be pressed to do the same service he was used to do, but he went and this morning came to let me know what they did. The first he met in Hereford was Sir William Croft who told him he was very glad he was come to assist them. His answer was that he had other business in town, and for that business "he came not provided for it," and was to go presently out of town. He went afterwards to "Anchent Bras," who he heard was in town. Mr. Davis asked him what he ment to do. He told him he was commanded to come thither and bring the company into the field, but they were so few that it was not worth going into the field. Then he asked Mr. Davis's opinion, and he told him he would stand for the king and Parliament, and he said he would do so too. Afterwards Mr. Davis heard he was called three or four times, when your company was called, so he went into the field to them and Sir William Croft asked him for a list of the company. He told them that he had told him before that he did not come provided for that service. Sir William Croft said. "Put your hand in your pocket for you have it about you." He told him Mr. Coningsby's man had one that would help him as well as that which he had, and if they must needs have it, one should wait upon them in the morning with it. They said, 'No,' Mr. Coningsby's would serve them. So he went from them, and was, as I perceive, unwilling to give them any distaste, for so he came out of town and enquired no further, nor could tell any more of it. He was with one in Hereford who told him the grand jury had attested the Herefordshire resolutions.

Mr. Davis told me he heard that all the commissioners have tied themselves one to another by a deep protestation that what the one does the other will do. So Sir William Croft who once did not love Mr. Coningsby nor Mr. Scudamore is now their mighty friend. I heard they have given your company to Mr. Coningsby. I have written this at large so that you know how this country stands. I find that even those who are thought the best are mighty fearful. Dear Sir let me entreat you to send me word what they should do who "have armes imposed upon them." I had no warrant sent me for any horse. I have enclosed you a copy of one of the warrants from the High Constable, but the Sheriff says he gave no warrants.

I have sent by the carrier of Ludlow a trunk with the plate.

The Same to the Same.

1642, July 17—No one knows what they mean to do with the volunteers. The Captain of them was once a tradesman and is now broken. Mr. Crowden, I mean the honest Mr. Crowden, told Samuel it would not be safe for me to stay in the country. for he thought something would be done shortly. I shall be very afraid to have you or Ned Harley come down. When the soldiers were all gathered together and your company was called, your name was first called and then a great many cried out and wished you were there that they might tear you in pieces. Samuel said he heard everyone rail at you and the Parliament. He dared not take upon him whose man he was and the people were so rude. Many of your soldiers said they would be for their King and their noble captain, meaning Mr. Coningsby. I hear they have intelligence from York.

I shall be very unwilling to have Ned Harley or yourself come down. Herefordshire is another county than when you were in it. Dear Sir, consider whether it be safe for me to stay at Brampton. They have

driven Mr. Herring from his home, and Mr. Crowder told Samuel he thought to go from his. I know no one to consult with in any need.

There is nobody that will give you a true relation of this country, neither is there anyone who, if I should have any injury offered me or mine, would do me justice, and I have only Samuel that has any understanding. If you still think that Brampton is the safest place for me, then I wish with all my heart that there were some understanding man of your acquaintance, who is religious, that you could prevail with to come and be at Brampton with me till the storms were a little over; that if there were need I might have his help for counsel upon the safest way of the defence of my house. If you could find any such gentleman I should be very glad. I would not have such a one as is broken in his estate and so have to maintain him, but such a one as Mr. Hart was. Dear Sir, do not take this as if it arose from a distracted heart, but as from thoughts how best to prevent any evil; and, most dear Sir, take all as from a wife that will most willingly do what you will have me do.

The sheriff told Samuel he did issue out warrants, and that he would obey both what came from King and from Parliament.

The Same to the Same.

1642, July 19. Brampton—This enclosed came to my hand this morning. I thought it good to give you timely notice of it. Do not think that I am too much afraid about my safety, but I desire that you would give me full directions what I should do in the one, as you say, of dutiful, sober means. Send me word how I should have my house guarded, and let me desire you not to come down nor to send Ned Harley. This is but for a time that they have got the upper hand.

This bearer is of so roguish a disposition that I dare not keep him in my house and I am as loath to put him away in this country, for there are too many of such. I desire that you would bid Sankey persuade him to go to sea or such an employment that he may not come any more into the country. *Signet.*

Stanley Gower to Sir Robert Harley, at Westminster.

1642, July 19. Leominster—You will perceive from the enclosed that the state of Herefordshire is worse than itself is sensible of. A commission is granted to Captain Croft to raise a hundred horse. The commissioners intend to stretch it far, and besides their own voluntary assistance they intend to levy horse in every parish. These are to be delivered to Captain Croft.

The venomous paper called "*The resolution of the county of Hereford*" was never seen by above fifty in all the county.

This day Mr. Coningsby procured a chamber to be called in Leominster to see what horse and money could be raised for the King there. But no man would propound, and the people have manifested unwillingness to give any. *Signet.*

Brilliana, Lady Harley to her husband, Sir Robert Harley.

1642, July 22. Brampton—I am now well resolved about my staying at Brampton, and I apprehend it is very necessary I should keep possession; for I am persuaded they would be glad I should go, so that if there be any stir they might get something. Wigmore Fair being on Monday and fearing the unruliness of that assembly, I sent to

Mr. Elton to come and walk the fair, which he promised to do. I hear Captain James Croft bought thirty horse at Ross Fair. On Tuesday week they begin to march. Sir William Croft and Mr. Wigmore of Shobdon mean to go with them.

The Same to the Same.

1642, July 23—Mr. Elton came to Brampton to-day. He tells me he was at Hereford when the commissioners sate to see what money and horse they would give. Mr. Coningsby gives as much money as comes to the keeping of six horses for three months which comes to "66, ode mony." No one gives under 2*l.*, but Mr. Elton tells me they will take anything, for Sir William Croft wrote to him that they would be contented with a widow's mite. I cannot tell whether Mr. Elton has given anything for he will not say. Captain James Croft goes to York on Monday.

The Same to the Same.

1642, July 25—Yesterday being the Sabbath as soon as the morning sermon was ended a bailiff of the Hundred of Wigmore went under the great tree in the street and read the commission of array and the proclamation that forbids obedience to the militia, and a warrant that all horse or money or plate going to York should pass quietly. He said the under-sheriff directed him to read it in all great parishes.

Yesterday I heard than when the soldiers appeared before the commissioners of array, Mr. Brabazon bid Captain Richard Wigmore march. Captain Wigmore asked him where his commission was. Mr. Brabazon answered that was enough to him that he bid him march. Captain Wigmore answered him that he must see a commission by which he was to march. Mr. Brabazon told him he had one and that was enough. Captain Wigmore answered that it was not enough for him. Mr. Brabazon asked him whether he would take his word; he answered "No." And so they had almost fallen out. I verily believe Mr. Brabazon seeks not the peace of this country. *Signet.*

The Same to the Same.

1642, July 27—Mr. Elton has left Brampton. He said he would not go to the assizes, but I persuaded him. He said he thought the commission of array unlawful and so he should not agree with them. Mr. Scudamore of Kingchurch does not appear among them. The clergy band appeared last week. Mr. Price of Weston Stow is their captain. *Signet.*

The Same to the Same.

1642, July 29—I have thought of this plan for guarding the house if you please to like it. I would make choice of twenty of the honestest and ablest men that are servants, or their sons, about Petherton, Buckton and Walford, to be in readiness if they hear the drum beat, to come to Brampton. And I would appoint some days in which three or four might come to Brampton to learn to shoot off a piece. I would oblige them to me by some kindness. If you do not like it set me down another plan, for I have so few servants, and I think that if I should sometimes invite your tenants and neighbours about me, it might make them more tractable. I should have sent the basin and ewer and salt but that I thought it would dishearten them to adhere to the Parliament

less than if they must part with all; and besides there were such base reports of you that I thought if they came and saw the house so stripped they would believe them to be true; and they are not of any great value. The carrier said you had sent down arms, and there was a rumour that Mr. Brabazon would seize upon them, which made Mr. Thomas and Edward Dally send them away that night. I hope Ned Harley will be with me next week. Robin humbly thanks you for his sword.

The Same to the Same.

1642, July 30—I have sent to Hereford to hear what they will do at the assizes. The judge came in yesterday at Shrewsbury. Yesterday they beat the drum for soldiers to go to the King but the drum was taken away and quieted.

Mr Langley has told me that when he was in London he had a place offered him of 60*l.* a year, so that he desires to leave at Michaelmas. Be pleased to send me word whether I should enquire for another to teach the school. I hope Robin and Tom will be ready to go to some university, but Ned Smith must have some one to teach him.

Postscript. Since I wrote this letter Samuel is returned from Hereford with this relation. The Judges read a letter from the King that the Papists should be suppressed and also the Anabaptists and Separatists, and with a solemn protestation that he would maintain the Protestant religion which was settled in Queen Elizabeth's days. The Judge's charge was according to the heads of that letter and had an attack against conventicles, but not a word of the order of Parliament to show the illegality of the commission of array.

It was in the letter that the judge should entertain a learned counsel, and that if any of the grand jury desired a copy, he might have it.

When the jury was presented to the judge, Sir William Croft and Mr. Brabazon whispered in the ear of the judge and then Mr. James of Trippleton was taken off. He was returned, and then at Hereford, Mr. Kyrle, Mr. Husband, and Mr. Broughton. They said they could do no good and so they went home. You may see who rules Herefordshire.

Samuel heard that Sir William Croft got very little money in Hereford. They have a hundred horse ready and begin their march on Tuesday. Captain Croft is very brave. He was in the market house, and his man spoke to Mr. James's man to ride a horse, and then Captain James Croft came and asked him to ride a light horse. He told him he should go no further than the King went and to cut off the roundheads. He offered him half-a-crown in the way of press money, but the fellow would not.

Sir Edward Stradling that came over with Ashborne took up seven post horses on Friday at Hereford, to go to Milford Haven.

I hear those that are called the nine worthies will take some of the trained bands and go to the King. I like the news very well, but fear it is not true.

I would not have you endanger yourself to come down. I hear that the son of Mr. Price of Weston Stowe swears bitterly what he would do to you if you were in the country, and that Brampton must be his.

They say this horse is to meet the King at Warwick Castle.

The Same to the Same.

1642, August 3. Brampton—The bearer of this was an eye witness what was done at Leominster, when they thought Mr. Clarke had been killed. It was about reading the King's book, which he

refused. I know not what we shall do at Brampton if it be brought to Mr. Gower, for I believe they will come with force. They say they maintain the true religion, but they shamefully use all that profess it at Hereford. Mr. Kyrle did but appear upon the bench, and they cried out "away, away with him, he is one of them." And they had got that unruly company together on purpose to make the tumult.

I hope Ned Harley will arrive to-day or to-morrow. When I have had the comfort of seeing him and speaking to him, I shall hasten him up to London, for I shall be much afraid for him. I think they would be glad to take him away to bring more sorrow on you and me. I have not received one tittle of kindness from anyone in this county since you went away, except Mr. Elton.

I hear that in Warwickshire Sir Francis Nethersole is thought to be of the better side, but he has great intelligence with Sir William Croft which makes him doubted in this country. *Signet.*

The Same to the Same.

1642, August 5. Brampton—Ned Harley arrived very well yesterday. I fear if any of the intercepted arms should come to Brampton, which were to have come into Herefordshire, they would like that occasion to come here with great violence, and so I fear they will if any of the gentlemen should be sent for up.

The plumbers have made an end of the casting and laying of the lead, but all is not yet done for there was not lead enough, and I was persuaded to wait for another year.

The Same to the Same.

1642, August 6—I hear some rumour that they mean to search all the houses in the country for arms. I mean those houses that are thought to be for the Parliament. I desire to know, if they should do so, what I had best do.

The Same to the Same.

1642, August 11—Sir William Croft came to me on Monday. The sum of his visit was that he might give me an assurance that in his private affection he was to you as he has been, but in the way of the public he would favour none. I thanked him for the favour of dealing so plainly with me, but desired him not to think I had any attempts upon the country but only to defend myself. He answered that I was Lord Conway's daughter, Lord Conway's sister, and Sir Robert Harley's wife, and a woman of great spirit. I perceive that they will do what they can against me. *Signet.*

The Same to the Same.

1642, August—I told Sir William Croft when he was with me that I thought it strange that there was an intention to seize upon what had come down from London, which was thought to be arms, though that was more than they could tell. I found in discourse that they apprehended I had more arms than for my private use, and if so they might be seized upon. I asked him whether if they thought so, what they would do. He answered me that there had been arms belonging to a gentleman in this country seized upon by the Parliament, and why not the other. I told him I had no more arms there than for the defence of my home, and I would keep them as well as I could. He

told me he heard I had many volunteers and had dispersed arms amongst them. How they may prevail with the county I know not, and how readily they may come in if I have need, I doubt, which makes me take this course. I have taken the men into my house and give them 3*d.* a day and meat and drink; and I hope if I have need, they and those in my house will be enough.

I am glad my Lord Essex is Lord Deputy of this country. In my opinion the deputy lieutenants may be Sir Richard Hopton, Sir John Kyrle, Mr. Vaughan, Sir Robert Whiting's son, Sir Walter Pye, and my cousin Rudall. I think if you do not take some of the other side you will mightily incense them, and some are much more moderate than others. If you choose men of little estates you will make them odious to the country.

——— to ———

1642, August 23—"Things are almost ripe, provide speedily for your safety. The danger is neere and great. There are some good parts in you which I am sorry should perish altogether. If my advice should secure you, give God the prayse. Enquire not my name but pray for me." *Copy.*

SIR WILLIAM CROFT to SIR ROBERT HARLEY.

[1642], August 28. Hereford—A long letter urging him to return to his allegiance to the King.

JOHN ASTON of Ludlow.

1642. September 3—An account of his examination before the bailiff and town clerk [of Ludlow] and others concerning a letter which was supposed to have been addressed to him.

The letter is as follows:—

W—— T—— to JOHN ASTON.

1642, August 31.—"Times are dangerous for intercepting of letters yet have I ventured to trust this bearer, a servant of Sir R. You may speedely expect the accomplishment of our designe. The spies though frightened, have done theyr part in discovery. The weakenes and securitie of our adversaries are noe little encouragment. Ere many nights the town in supposed defence wil be at our dispose, and you freed from your feares. Let all of ours have speedy notice and provide for their safeties. I doubt not but each one hath his Zoar to fly to from the destruction of Sodom. Read and burne and all is safe."

BRILLIANA, LADY HARLEY to her husband, SIR ROBERT HARLEY, at Westminster.

1642, September 4—I hear it daily confirmed that they mean to come against us. There is no one to whom you are so much beholden as Mr. Dewe, who will in no company endure to have you spoken against. If he be at table he will rise and go away.

I fear to be surprised on the Sabbath, therefore I would fain keep my house and let Mr. Gower preach to my family. Mr. Gower and Ned Harley will not yield to it, but I think I shall stand upon my watch at all times. *Signet.*

Sir Robert Cooke to his cousin, Sir Robert Harley.

1642, September 13. Highnam [Co. Gloucester]—I hope no attempt will be made on your house, but if there should be, I will venture myself in the rescue of that lady whom I so much honour, though the way be long and through a country much disaffected, and for the most part well pleased neither with you nor with me. I do not hear that your enemies increase in strength or confidence, but I am informed that the malignants of Herefordshire are confederated with those of Monmouthshire, and they say, with some of the Welsh counties, which may produce some ill effect; but I hold it of no small consequence that this county stands so right for King and Parliament.

A great outrage was lately committed at the house of one Mr. Stephens in Worcestershire on the occasion of the rescue of one Walter, an Oxfordshire delinquent, by some troopers that were thought to come from Oxford. It is reported they are pursued by Colonel Fynes and passed from Broadway to Pershore, thence towards Bridgnorth. About four of them have been arrested and lodged in Gloucester Gaol.

Brilliana, Lady Harley to her husband [Sir Robert Harley].

1642, September 16. Brampton—I am glad to hear of the good success of the Parliament forces. We have been in much fear in the country. Ned Harley has very good courage and has no desire to remove, and says that if I remove for my safety he hopes he will have leave to stay. If he do go from Brampton he is resolved to put himself into the army. I conceive Mr. Gower and Mr. Yates will not remove out of this country till these storms are over. To-morrow is appointed to be the day on which they will resolve.

Captain Price hearing that I was told that he meant to come against Brampton, sent a letter to assure me to the contrary.

This night I received a letter from Mr. Griffiths who lets me know that "Barronet" Price has shewed a great deal of good will to me, offering to keep my arms as his own. It is more courtesy than any in this country have offered me.

On Thursday my cousin Vaughan came. He was of the commission of array but now declines it. He sends you the relation of how far he went and desires your advice which I pray you to give, for I think he is sorry for what he has done.

Robert Kyrle to his cousin, Sir Robert Harley, in London.

1642, September 17. Gloucester—"My father's sad condition he is now in by reason of our loss of my mother, hinders him from saluting you with his owne pene; therefore commanded mee to acquaint you that Sir Robert Cooke and Mr. Pury are readie to releive Brampton Castle when it shall be in distress, but they want commission from both houses of Parliament to remove out of theyre owne country to releive us. Therefore wee desire you to procure an ordinance of Parliament to authorize them. Mauger the malice and craft of our worthies I have almost compleated my troope, and begin my march towards London tomorrow." *Signet.*

William Lenthall, Speaker, to John Hunt, Sergeant at Arms attending the House of Commons.

1642, September 22.—Warrant issued by virtue of an order of the House of Commons to arrest Wallop Brabazon, Sir William Croft,

Fitzwilliam Coningsby, Thomas Price, Henry Lingen, and William Rudhall, and bring them up before the House as delinquents for being active in advancing the commission of array. *Copy.*

BRILLIANA, LADY HARLEY to her husband, SIR ROBERT HARLEY.

1642, September 22—Mr Langley can tell you how a messenger my cousin Davis sent from Gloucester, was used at Hereford, being imprisoned and my letter taken away. The messenger is set free but I have not had my letter.

Ned Harley is no way willing to go from Brampton; he is very careful and a great comfort to me, and Robin does very well. *Signet*

STANLEY GOWER to SIR ROBERT HARLEY at Westminster.

1642, September 23. Brampton—We have lately held our quarter fast day, and to prevent any inconveniency we kept it in private in the castle, having there a good company of strangers, well affected. The same night, through some waggery I suppose, two muskets were discharged when we were all in bed, whereupon the watch gave the alarm and we all were raised and in our quarters ready for any assault, within a quarter of an hour. It had this success that it shewed us our errors for another time. Mr. Davis went to London, and from Gloucester sent a letter to my Lady which was surprised by the Mayor of Hereford, who told him he was carrying it to the house of a traitor. Mr. Coningsby has the letter yet.

We long to see some forces in our country. Mr. Sherborne labours infinitely to get all the Welch forces to Worcester, and swears that "if he can first meet with his Lord he shall be glad in this cause to be the first man shall kill him."

VISCOUNT CONWAY AND KILULTA to [GEORGE] GARRARD.

1642, September 24. Belfast—"I did beleave there was somme thing of extraordinary in your letter soe soone as I saw it by cause it came poste, whitch your letters to me doe not use to doe. There could not anything that I know more have rejoyced me then that my Lord of Northumberland is in love. I am glad for the ladyes sake, whom I know, and judge that she doth deserve as mutch love as can be given. I am glad for my Lady of Salisbury, that my Lord of Northumberland's wife is as neere to her as it is possible; and I am glad for you by cause I know you wish well to the howse, and by cause you wish well to both howses perswade them to marry quickly. I am very sorry that my Lady of Devonshire will not be at the wedding. You say she is at Chatsworth, and I say it is as good living in Ireland. Hir beauty and galantery doe not deserve to be soe obscured. When you write to hir I pray commend my most humble service to hir. I am sorry my bookes did give you sutch trouble, but you comme from ill tongues as gold from the crucible, more pure and bright and better lustre. You are the onely happy man that I know, for both sides doe equally love you.

We are heere making an end of a wet summer and are entring into winter without hay for our horses, without howses for the men, it raines continually, every one is sicke, few cloathes, little money, ill meate, worse drinke. How happy are you at Hatfield. I know not in the world soe happy a man as you are, in the same happynes whitch you now are in, you have lived all your life, and allthough the three kingdomes are in disorder, yet are not you put out of your course. I pray commend my most humble service to my Lady of Salisbury, and

to my Lady Elisabeth Howard, and tell hir that hir beauty did make me extreamely hir servant, but hir being Countesse of Northumberland doth double my desire to doe hir service."

ROBERT, EARL OF ESSEX to SIR JOHN KYRLE, SIR ROBERT HARLEY, SIR RICHARD HOPTON, JOHN SCUDAMORE of Kenderchurch, AMBROSE ELTON, JAMES KYRLE of Walford, WALTER KYRLE of Ross, HENRY VAUGHAN of Bredwardine, EDWARD BROUGHTON of Kingston, EDWARD HARLEY, JOHN FLACKETT, BENNETT HOSKINS, FRANCIS KYRLE, and THOMAS RAWLINS, or any two of them.

1642, September 30.—Commission for raising troops out the trained bands and volunteers in the county of Hereford. *Signed. Parchment.*

GLOUCESTERSHIRE, WORCESTERSHIRE, HEREFORDSHIRE and SHROPSHIRE.

1642, October 8, Worcester.—"Wee whose names are hereunto subscribed,finding that the forces raised by pretence of his Majesty's authority without the consent of Parliament do comitt all manner of outrages, rapine, and barbarous cruelties in all places where they come, hold it necessary for the preservation of our selves and the counties wherein we are interessed, according to the direction of his Excellency the Earle of Essex, Captaine General of the Army raised by the Parliament for the defence of the King and Kingdome and by the power and instructions of both Houses of Parliament in that behalf given, to unite ourselves in an Association. And do therefore hereby for ourselves and the counties of Gloucester, Worcester, Hereford, and Salop, so farre as in us lyeth, mutually agree and promise to raise the trained bands and other forces in the said counties respectively, for the withstanding and expelling of the said forces so raised without consent of Parliament, that shall come into or bee in any of the said counties. And that wee shal bee ready to joyne with any other county which shall desire to enter into this association with us, and to imploy the said forces so by us to bee raised as his Excellency the Earle of Essex shall command." *Signed by* Sir Walter Devereux, Sir John Rous, John Wylde, Humphry Salwey, John Nanfan, N. Lechmere, Sir Robert Harley, Sir Richard Hopton, Henry Vaughan, E. Broughton, James Kyrle, John Flackett, Sir John Corbett, RichardMore, Thomas Mytton, Hercules Kynnersley, and Thomas Kynnersley.

HEREFORDSHIRE.

1642, October 15—Proposals for raising "dragoneers" in Herefordshire. *Copy.*

The EARL OF PEMBROKE, LORD SAYE AND SELE, B. FEILDING, JOHN PYM and ANTHONY NICOLLS, the Committee of Public Safety to the COMMITTEES OF PARLIAMENT or the DEPUTY LIEUTENANTS of Herefordshire.

1642, November 15—"Upon Thursday the Lords and Commons sent the Earle of Northumberland, the Lord of Pembroke, the Lord Wenman, Mr. Pierpoint, and Sir John Ipsley with an humble petition to his Majestie that for avoydin[g] any further effusion of bloud, hee would be pleased to reside in some place where the Committee of both Houses might attend him with some proposicions of peace. To which they receyved his Majestie's answere upon Friday, of both which we doe hereby send

you copies. Notwithstanding all which, our endeavors for, and hopes of, peace were forthwith dashed. For whiles wee were preparing of to close the wounds of the kingdome, his Majestie's army did, about one the clock in the afternoone, with greate violence assault the towne of Branford where twoe small regiments consisting of one thousand men or thereabouts with some horse, were inquartered, who made very good resistance for three or four houres, yet at last being overprest by the multitude of the Kinge's forces and spent all their powder, were like to have byn cut in pieces if that Collonell Hamden with his regiment had not come to releeve them, who carried himselfe with soe much resolucion and judgment that by his assistance both the regiments retired with the losse of about fifty men and in Mr. Hamden's not above one man slayne. The Lord Generall inquarted that night at Hamersmith and the next morning came into the field, being accompanied with the Earle of Northumberland and Holland, who though they had noe comand in the army, went out gallantly arrayed and accompanied, to have a part in the honor and hazard of the day. The Lord Generall's army stood in batalion in Turnham Greene, the other army of the cavaliers and malignants in a close betweene them and Branford without giving them any charge, though to amuse our men they made many offers as if they would have charged. But about fower of the clock, our men begun to charge them with some ordinance, but they closelie withdrew themselves and marcht away leaving the feild and the towne to our army. It being now growne darke, it was not thought good to follow them, soe they marcht in a great confusion without opposicion to Kingston where most of the horse was quartered, and in some adjacent villages. Whiles they remayned at Branford they robbed and pillaged all the towne. From Kingston they marched yesterday in the afternoone, as wee are informed, but whether into Kent or Portchmouth wee have yet noe perfect intelligence. Thus under the shadoe of peace wee are assayed with the furye of warr and instead of preventinge the effusion of bloud which wee sought, much bloud of the armye was spilte and wealthe of the cittye were in verye greate danger to have been surprised. The Londoners exprest verye much bountye, courage, and confidence in sendinge out Captain Skippon with two regimentes of theire trained bandes besides three former regimentes raised in the cittye and divers troopes of horse, and by carefull supplies of ammunition and all other necessaries, espetiallye of victuall, which was a greate incouragement and refreshinge to our soldiers. Of all theise accidentes wee have thought good to give you notice that you maye take of your counties and keepe yourselves in a posture to defende your owne homes and to assist your neighbours. And youe maye be sure thee Lord Generall will not be longe behynde the malignant army to protect you from them, who everyewhere carrye themselves as common enemies and are to be opposed and suppressed; without which wee have litle hope his Majestie will accept of any peace." *Signed. Seal of arms.*

Viscount Conway and Kilulta to [George] Garrard.

1642, November 16, Belfast—"According as you say in your letter to me the distance between us is great, but the troubles in England make it to be twice as farre. It is sayde heere that London is fortifying. I believe then you will be in the Charterhouse in a frontire garrison. We are heere in very ill condition without meate or money, raine and winde without doores, hunger and poverty within doores, fowle wayes and weather abroad, fowle faces and sadde at home, fowle within and fowle without, like a cloath cloake lined with cloath. When

I shall be partaker of your happynesses it is past my skill to devine, but I have so mutch good nature as that I am glad for the ease and the well being of my frendes. That you eat good meate gives me halfe my dinner in contentment, and when you make the relation of the good company you are with all, I am transported thither. I am extreamely glad that my Lord of Northumberland is soe well in health, that he hath married soe noble, soe handsome, soe good a Lady, whom he loves extreamly, and who loves him and will doe every day more, if his discretion be but halfe soe mutch as his beauty, but I beleave it is as mutch. I pray commend my humble service to my Lady of Salisbury. Of my Lady of Devonshire you write not at all. I pray commend my humble service to hir. I shal be very glad to heare again from you. I value every one of your letters in this place at his weight in golde." *Copy.*

SIR R. H[ARLEY] and SIR R. C[OOKE] to the COMMITTEE of the LORDS and COMMONS for the safety of the Kingdom.

1642, November 22. Hereford—The best account we can give of these parts is that the strength of Lord Herbert, confederated with the forces of the Marquis of Hertford and the malignant parts of Wales, by gathering to a head, grows formidable to their neighbours, not without a suspicion that they intend to force a passage towards Prince Rupert's army. The Earl of Stamford's vigilance and resolution is such in improving the authority with which he is invested, that we are confident the enlargement of it would be a strengthening of the good cause. The best way we can propound for enlarging his power would be by giving him command over the forces in the counties of Gloucester, Hereford, Worcester, and Salop. *Copy.*

The BAILIFF and BURGESSES of LEOMINSTER to SIR ROBERT HARLEY.

1642, November 27, Leominster—Asking him to intercede for them with the Earl of Stamford who is reported to be very much incensed against them. *Seventeen signatures.*

SERGEANT MAJOR FERRARS to COLONEL LAWDEY.

1642, December 1, Hereford—*See Calendar of State Papers, Domestic. Same date. Copy.*

THE EARL OF STAMFORD to SIR ROBERT HARLEY.

[1642,] December 7, Hereford—"I have taken our business into serious consideration, and I doe desire you upon receipt hearof to repaire hither. I shall, God willinge, doe my best to secure this place. I have gotten together good store of hay, oates, corne, and all manner of provisions. Our dragooners come in apace, and if you weare heare our business weare done." *Signed.*

The SAME to the SAME.

[1642, December.] 3 o'clock, at sunset, "Mordiford"—I have arrived here upon my slow and tedious march, having received his Excellency's commands to march away to my government of Gloucester and Bristol. "I marched out, I thanke God, in an honorable waye, my drums beatinge, alarme all night, my coullers flyinge, and trumpetts soundinge, and I trust, by God's grace, I shall be with you in the morning to consult about what we shall do." *Signed.*

Herefordshire.

1642—A declaration or resolution of the County of Hereford that as the King was pleased to maintain the Protestant religion, his own just power, the laws of the land, and the liberty of the subjects, so they were reciprocally bound to maintain him in all the premises with their lives and fortunes. *Printed.*

Brilliana, Lady Harley to her husband, Sir Robert Harley.

1642[-3], January 17—I heard this week that you and Ned Harley have come well to London. I did not think there had been such natured men in the world as I find in Herefordshire. My servants are taken if I do but send them about my business. Anthony Child was taken and kept in prison a week, and then bound not to come into my house, and then set free. Mr. Coningsby has charged the miller of "Arnstry" not to pay me any rent, on pain of death. They will not let any have any commerce with me. They said the minister should do well to preach in their own church, upon which Mr. Yates preached at Leintwardine, and they went to Mr. Wigmore for a warrant against him. I give no offence to any, and I have written to Lord Scudamore and Mr. Coningsby and Sir Walter Pye to let them know what injuries I suffer, but I cannot say that any one of them shows me any common kindness. I believe they thirst after my life and my children's. I do not see how I can stay with safety, for they threaten to put soldiers into my house. I believe you do not imagine how they use me.

I have my health and so have the children and we have yet, I thank God, meat to eat, but not thanks to the gentlemen.

The Same to the Same.

1642[-3], January 24—When I see the answers of the King to the Parliament and consider how natural men take the ways of the Parliament I fear lest it should much "sade" you, but they tell me you are cheerful.

I desire you to think whether it might not be well that the Bishop be made acquainted with the behaviour of those at Hereford, that he might reprove them for it; and I thought it might be well if Lord Brook did write and press it to him. The matter was thus. Mr. Yates was asked to preach at Hereford and Mr. Hayly promised he should have his church. Mr. Yates in the morning after the prayers were read, went up into the pulpit and prayed in short because he thought he could not hold them long, intending to pray for the Church and State afterwards. As soon as the prayer was ended, two went out and cried "I pray God bless the King." Upon which Mr. Yates told them he took but the liberty of many divines to pray for the King and Church, either before or after the sermon. But they went out, rang the bells and many went out of church and cried "roundhead," and said they would cast stones at him. Still he went on with his sermon. After dinner when he thought to preach again, some went to the church to hinder it and some to the pulpit. When they saw that would not do, the two churchwardens came to him and asked for his license, he told them he had one from the Bishop of the diocese, but that he had not thought it needful to bring it with him since he was a minister of this diocese. They told him he should not preach, so he went to the Cathedral, and all the time he was in town he could not look out but he was called roundhead.

The Same to the Same.

1642[-3], January 25. Brampton—I have sent the gilt plate in a little trunk, by the carrier of Leominster. I hear much plate is brought in. I beseech the Lord to continue the willingness of the people's hearts to stand for their own good. *Signet.*

The Same to the Same.

1642[-3], February 14. Brampton—I much long to hear from you. It would be a great comfort to me to see a few lines from you, and it is my comfort to know you would as willingly send to me, but yet we are barred from this comfort of hearing and seeing one another.

And now I must let you know how gracious our God has dealt with me, in preserving me and mine out of our enemy's hands, when my Lord Herbert was at Hereford which was about nine days past, where they had the sheriff of Radnorshire in the Council of war which they held upon Brampton, where they concluded the best way was to come with a "rooking trench," and to blow up the castle. That was agreed of, and the sheriff of Radnorshire was to bring the train bands of Radnorshire, and those of Herefordshire were to meet them. My Lord Herbert himself appointed to be at Presteign that so he might make them go out of their county, which the soldiers refused to do. But our God who never fails those that seek him, raised up some in the Forest of Dean, which has carried them that way to fight with them. For Sir John Winton's house being beset, they sent to my Lord Herbert for help.

Mr. Coningsby sent to all your tenants that they shall pay no rent but pay it in to him, for now I hear they mean to take away your rents and to drive away all the cattle I have; then they say that will be as good as if they sent against me.

The children are well and so am I, but we are imprisoned. None dare go abroad further than the cow "lessowe."

For myself I have not found common civility amongst them. They say I am a good lady, but it is for your sake and your childrens that they do so; which words are bitter to me.

William Bourne to Sir Robert Harley.

1642[-3], February 19. Manchester College—Enclosing a petition that not only divines of the kingdom but also "the faithful brethren who have suffered in the cause" and foreign divines might be admitted to the synod shortly to be assembled. *Signed. Signet.*

Brilliana, Lady Harley to her husband, Sir Robert Harley.

1642[-3], February 23—The tenants will pay me no rents and so they say I shall be forced to let my servants go when I have nothing to keep them, and then when nobody is with me they may do what they will. There is no abiding for me if I have not company in my house, for they would plunder me every day. How I shall supply the provisions of my house I know not. Mr. Jones of Trewern sent his wife unto me to desire that I would write to you to get Captain Charles Price out of prison. They say they have been so mad against me because you were the cause he was taken.

The Same to the Same.

1642[-3], February 26—Sir Richard "Sawedy" who was commanded to come against us, was shot in the Forest of Dean and died the other day at Raglan Castle.

The Same to the Same.

1642[-3], March 4—This day about two o'clock, Captain Bashfield and ten trumpeters brought me a summons of which I enclose a copy and a copy of my answer.

For what they lay upon me as being your wife, I think it more happiness to me, if I did suffer all that man can lay upon me, in being your wife, than if I were the wife of any man breathing and did enjoy all the pleasures of this world. This I cannot but say, because I am likely to suffer. Dear Sir, be not too much troubled for me or your children. My servants and Mr. Phillips, and Mr. Gower, and Doctor Wright are very cheerful and of good courage. Sir William Croft has sent forth a warrant to summon twenty-four men that are named in the warrant to come to Hereford to witness to the misdemeanours and outrages laid to your charge, and Ned Harley's, Mr. Gower's, Mr. Yates's, Mr. Lacy's, Mr. Jones's, and Mr. Davis's charges.

Fitzwilliam Coningsby to Brilliana, Lady Harley.

1642[-3], March 4. Hereford—"By virtue of the Kinge's Majestie's commands as also by special orders from his Excellency Edward, Lord Herbert, Lord Generall of his Majestie's forces in these parts, to me directed under his Excellencie's hand and seale. I summon you Dame Brilliana Harley and all others within or about the Castle of Brompton Brian, straitly chardinge you in his Majestie's name to deliver up to his Majestie's use the fort and castle of Brompton Brian, with all armes, ammunition, and all other warlike provision about or in the sayd fort and castle under the paine to be taken and proceeded against both by law and martial force as persons guilty of high treason. Requireinge you forthwith and without further delay to return your positive answer to be represented to his Majestie and his Excellency the Lord Generall and to the Judges of Assize; to the which summons and demaund of the sayd fort and of the positive answer, I require your answere to be delivered to this gentleman, Captain Henry Baskervile and to Thomas Lewis, trumpeter to his Excellencie, and Philip Trahearne, gentleman, appointed to this service. As you will every one answere the contrary at your utmost perills." *Copy enclosed in the preceding letter.*

Brilliana, Lady Harley to [Fitzwilliam Coningsby].

1642[-3], March 4. Brampton Castle—"To your demaund of my house and armes—which are no more than to defend my house—This is my answer. Our gracious kinge, haveing many times promised that he will maintaine the lawes and libertyes of the kingdome, by which I have as good right to what is mine as any one, maintaines me these, and I know not upon what ground the refusall of giveinge you what is mine—by the lawes of the land—will prove me or any that is with mee, traytors." *Copy. On the same sheet as the preceding letter.*

Brilliana, Lady Harley, to Colonel Massey.

1642[-3], March 4—Sending him a copy of the preceding correspondence between herself and Fitzwilliam Coningsby. *Signed.*

The Same to the Same.

1642[-3], March 8—I sent a messenger to you on Saturday last, but not being certain whether my letter reached you, I send you these lines

by which I desire you to know my condition. On Saturday Mr. Coningsby sent Captain Baskervile and a trumpeter with a summons in writing that I should deliver up my house and arms or else be proceeded against as a traitor. My answer was that I knew not that by any law the refusal to give what was mine would prove me to be a traitor. I daily expect Lord Herbert's forces to come against me.

I doubt not that our friends will do what they can for us. If they can do nothing else I am confident we shall have their prayers. I shall be glad to receive the assurance of your being safe, which will some way refresh my thoughts after the sad news of my Lord Brooke's death.

BRILLIANA, LADY HARLEY to her husband, SIR ROBERT HARLEY.

1642[–3], March 8—I send you this letter that you may know how I am and that I may know of you what I had best do. I enclose a copy of the paper Mr. Coningsby sent and a copy of my answer. I hear my answer was sent on the Sabbath to Lord Herbert, who I hear, has appointed six hundred soldiers and two pieces of ordnance to come against me, which some say will be at Brampton to-morrow, and some next week. We are all very cheerful and not afraid.

Let me know whether you think it best for me to stay at Brampton or whether I had best steal as many of the beasts and horses as I can and so go to some other place. I pray you do not make any fear of mine any ground of your resolution, but I desire to do that which is best in the opinion of those who can best judge. I think in this cessation of arms is the best time to resolve what to do; but I fear my enemies will not make a cessation of arms with me.

Mr. Coningsby says he stays your rent of the mills because you are two years behind with rent to the King; which I am sure is false. They have taken ten horses from me. I am sure they may as well do the greatest violence to the most innocent person as do what they do to me for I offend nobody.

Mr. Gower, Mr. Yates, Mr. Lowe, Mr. Brale, Mr. Davis, Mr. James, and Mathey of Buckton were indicted at the last sessions.

I marvel that I hear nothing of my cousin Hakluyt.

The children are all well. *Signet.*

THE MARQUIS OF HERTFORD to LADY HARLEY.

[1643, March]—"I have received your letter which came to me very seasonably, for I was upon sending some forces so provided towards your Ladyship's house, that they would not have returned without their errand, which should have beene to reduce that place to obedience to his Majesty, which hath beene reported to me to be a receptacle for his enemies, and a prison for many of his good subjects. I have for this day, upon your letter, stayed those forces, and shall truely be willing upon my word and honor, rather to protect you, your children, servants, house, and whatsoever els is yours, by putting such officers and soldiers in your house, for whose good demeanour I will be responsible, then by your refusal of this offer to protect you, be forced to take such a course for the reducing thereof, as will inevitably be to the great hazard of yourselfe and your estate, and I have sent this gentleman my servant purposely backe with your messenger to bring me your answer this present night." *Copy.*

ROBERT HARLEY to his brother, [EDWARD] HARLEY.

1643, April 12. Bishopstoke—"I believe you marvel that since our fight I have noe way acquainted you with God's mercy towards us, but

I am confident that when you have here seine upon what constant and hard duty our regiment hath binne since our last fight you will noe way thinke me guilty of neglect. What my memory hath kept I will here present unto you, although I must confesse that in some actions my ——was my best actor for me; yet in some places my spurres would be too dull and my sword too short, but my horse not soe sloe but that I could convoy my arrant thorough a pistol.

March the 17th, wee removed our quarters from beyond Arundel to the Manhood neare Chichester. Tuesday, the 19th, the heath neare Chichester was appointed for the rendevouz for our three regiments of horse. From thence that night wee marched to Havant. Tuesday the 26th, the generall rendevouz for our horse was in the fields by East Meane. Wee had in the field, twenty-two troops of my lord generall's, eleven troops of Sir William Waller's regiment, seven troops of Sir Arthur's; six troops of Colonel Vandrusk's, five troops of the Kentish, four troops of Sir Richard Greinfield's, alias Colonel Cook's leiftenant colonels, four troops of Colonel Tompsone, four troops of Colonel Norton's. Wennedsday, the 27th, the heath by East Meane was rendevouz for all our horse and foote. The strength of them consisted in these regiments, the generall's, Colonel Pattle's, Sir Arthur Haselrig's, the Kentish red regiment, Colonel Jones of Farnham Castel his regiment, and the woodden cittye brigade under their true colonel, Colonel Browne. Wee had only Sir William Waller's and Colonel Cunninggam's regiments of dragoones: this day wee begunne our march. Sir William Belfore had the vantguard of our horse: with him marched his twenty-two troops, the Kentish, Colonel Norton and Greinfield's, their troops. Of our foote, Colonel Browne had the vantguard. Sir William Waller broute up the reare with his three regiments of horse. Here wee chainged our posture of marching with the regiments. Wee never march nowe but four troops together.

The enemy faced us this day with about three thousand horse. Here you should have seen the Londoners runne to see what manner of thinges cowes were. Some of them would say they had all of them hoornes, and would doe greate mischiefe with them, then comes one of the wisest of them cryeth 'Speake softly.' To end the confusion of their opinions they pyled up a counsel of warr, and agreed it was nothing but some kind of looking glasse, and soe marched away. Wee had some light skirmishes but with little hurt on ether side. We marched this day to Cherrytowne where the citicens came within sight of the enemy's foote. You could heare noe other word of commaund then 'Stand straite in your files.' When it begunne to growe darke, wee might see the enemy striving to possesse themselfes of a hill and a heath on the right hand of us, which caused us to make choise of the ground wee were on to receave the enemy. It was after twelve of the clocke at night before our reare came up, which was caused by our often facing about to face the enemy. The 28th day wee faced one another for the most part of the day. Their was a house and two barnes very full of corne from which our horse fetched greate store of provision for their horses. It did stand betwixt both armyes, but nearer theirs then ours, which caused us to send divers partees of horse to keipe it from them, and they sent partees to gaine it from us. Skirmishes betwixt these partees lasted a good part of the day, till towards night they sent a partee of foote which put our horse to a retreate, and soe they barred the barnes and house, which was a greate oversight in us: it standing soe that wee might with a fewe foote have maintained it untill wee had fetched away the corne, which was much wanted in our army. This night I commaunded the outguards of our horse that did belong to our regiment

which was [in] Waltam wood were the enemy had faced us the day before with two regiments of horse. In the morning before day, I sent a partee of horse to discover which way the enemy did lye. They found them all drawne together on the hill upon the right hand of us. Not long after the partee was returned, but the trivall was beaten. The trumpets sounded to horse and an alarum was strucke up thorough out the whole army. To some it was a trusty awaking from a cold sleipe; to others it stroke more terror then the earth had donne cold before. In the morning when I went to veiwe the army, I sawe such a cheerfulnesse in every one's countenanse, that it promised ether victory or a willingnesse rather to dye then loose the feild. Only the citisens' silver lase begunne to looke like copper. Their was on the right hand of us —as wee were nowe faced,—a woode which wee did conceave might be of greate advantage to us if it were maintained; for which purpose their was a partee of a thousand musquettiers, Colonel Pattle's regiment and the Londoners white regiment, sent thither, and three hundred horse to second them. On the left wing of us their was hedges and a little village. Wee sent a very strong partee of musquettiers to line those hedges, whereof one partee were Londoners. The enemy made noe long stand but fell upon our men that were in the woode, and likewise sent a partee to fall on our men at the little village. The citisens in the woode—were in woode but they found the way howe to get out—noe sooner they did see that the bullets would come otherwise then they would have them but they made a foule retreate—I am confident I smelt them—with a faire paire of heeles, which did soe discourage the rest, that they all left their charge with a shamefull retreat. Our three hundred horse which were to second our foote as soone as the enemy offered to charge came away in the same confusion on the left hand. Alsoe the Londoners lost their ground. Nowe the day beganne to looke blacke on our side, and if God had not wonderfully shewed himselfe, wee had lost the field, yet I thought I did see something that promised victory. All were still willing to goe on, and the souldiers put the fault on their officers, and the officers on the souldiers. The enemy being nowe possessed of the woode, that wee might not be outdared by their horse, wee drewe downe all our horse into a heath, which stoode betwixt the two hills were they did fight, but under favour of the enemy's ordinanse, the hills being one from another not whole culvering shott—which was wel knowne to some of the enemy's horse which were dispersed by our shott. Here my leiftenant lost his horse and a part of his foote, but I hope he will recover speidily. Their canon did very small execution amongst us, the enemy thinking all were his owne if he could but possesse himselfe of the village and those hedges wee had lined; for that intent he sent downe a partee of fifteen hundred commaunded men to possesse themselfes of those places. Wee likewise sent downe twelve hundred commanded men to second our owne men. These did holde their places very neare a heath; then the enemy gotte ground and fired the village. It was noe sooner on fire but the winde turned. Our men, seeing the advantage set them to a disordered retreat; our horse seeing it, sent a partee of a hundred horse under the command of Captaine Buttler to charge them, and another under the command of Colonel Norton to second them. Captaine Fleming commanded another partee. They all of them performed their charges soe wel that thorough God's blessing they routed them all, sleue about a hundred and fifty and tooke a hundred and twenty prisoners with divers commanders of quality. Wee receaved not much losse, only Captaine Fleming hurt in the arme with a captaine's leading staffe. I doe not heare of any other con-

siderable losse or hurt. Not till nowe did their horse come to charge. The fight betwixt the horse continued nea[rly] four houres, their horse being at length discouraged, doing noe good with their desperate and bold charges, made a faire retreat to the topp of the hill were their foote were. Colonel James Carr and Major Strauan had soe plyed their businesse on the left of our army that they forced the enemy to drawe off their ordinanse, and quickly engaged all the enemy's foote on them, but they seeing their horse to retreat would noe longer abide the charge of our foote and dragoones, but made a speidy retreat to a hill a little beyond the place were wee did fight. When wee had possessed with our horse the hill which the enemy had, wee were at a stand wether wee should advance on the enemy. It was once by some ordered that wee should returne to our stations which wee had before; and I believe wee should not have pursued if Colonel Weims had not shewed himselfe very violent for it. To him next under God doth belong much of our victory. Thorough his perswasions it was ordered wee should againe fall on them and give them a generall charge. This delay of ours gave them leave to drawe of all their canon and most of their carriages, but noe sooner was our cannon come up and played on them awile but they prevented our charge in commanding everyone to shift for himselfe, and soe they proved their horses to be better then ours. They never faced about as I can heare to this day. Nowe when it was too late wee followed them on the spurr unto Winchester walls: wee took divers carriages and store of ammunition. The enemy in his flight set Alsford on fire, and for their reward wee coming into the towne before they well knewe of it, wee gave none of them any quarter. Very many Irish men were slaine here. Our whole body of horse halted three miles short of Winchester; our partees went to Winchester gates. The slauter on either side was very small, especially on ours, considering howe long wee did fight. I believe in all wee did not loose sixty men. The enemy, I am confident, had slaine three hundred men besides horse. All the prisoners wee have tooke since the fight says that most of their officers of worth were slaine or wounded. The men of greatest note that is on their side slaine is my Lord John. On our side hurt there is Colonel Meldrum, Captain Fleming, two captaines, and one major: these be all I heare be hurt. Saturday the 30th wee faced Winchester with our horse and marched that night to Stokebridge. Sabathday the 31st wee had intelligence that three hundred of the enemy lay at Andover. Our regiment was commanded thither to fall on the towne; wee only tooke some straklers, the rest had taken fresh breath and were gonne to Neuberry. Munday, the 1st of April, our regiment, Sir Arthur's regiment of horse, and Sir William Waller's regiment of dragoones were commanded to fall on the enimey's quarters at Neuberry. A little before sunne setting wee beganne our march; halfe an houre before daylight wee came before the towne; Captaine Fincher, having the disposing of the businesse, desired me to second him with my troope in charging first with the forlorne hope into towne. Their was noe officer then with the troope but myselfe and quarter master. My cornet then commanded part of the forlorne hope that entered the towne. Another way their was a small partee which went before Captaine Fincher's partee. They rode up neare the barracade till the enemy fired halfe score musquettes on them which made them crye 'Faces about'; as it was when we tooke Craiford's carriages. Not long it was before the other partee of ours had entered the towne and were come to this barracade, and then our feare was ended; wee tooke some horses and about an hundred prisoners. If it please you, you may ask this bearer why he plundered at Neuberry. On Tuesday wee marched backe to Andover. On Thursday, the 4th. wee marched to Stokebridge. On Fryday and Saturday wee marched to Rumsey. On Sabathday about sunne

setting, wee marched towards Winchester; at the breake of the day, we came before the towne. Wee lost one comon souldier in taking the towne. Wee tooke above a hundred horse and a hundred prisoners; wee plundered the towne, and soe returned to Rumsey. Tuesday, the 9th, wee marched with our whole army to Waltam. Our regiment is quartered at Byshope stoke, three miles of Waltam. I should have told you that before wee marched from Andover, Sir William Waller went with all our horse but two regiments and marched to Christe Church, and tooke it in with two hundred prisoners and sixty horse, and on Saturday the 6th, Byshop Waltam was delivered up to Colonel Browne upon composition to march away, leaving their armes behinde them. If you have heard any relation of our fight you may save yourselfe labor in reading these scribled lines which are nothing else than a confused thing patched up by a short memory: if you have heard none, accept of this as coming from a willing minde to doe you service. When I last enjoyed your company in London I desired Mr. Burgh to furnish me with some necessary, which he promised to doe. I desire that you would hasten them that if it be possible I may have them by this messenger. If I doe not forget I acquainted you that I had spoken for a sadle to Mr. Parry. It is a thing I exceedingly want, both my sadles being broken: your approbation of the sadle would much welcome it to me.

This bearer, Kufford, whoe thorough his importunities hath gotte leave to goe to London on some businesse of his owne, I shall imploy him in nothing but to trye wether he can bring downe my trumpet, for which I desire you would assist him. He hath broute up with him the pyde mare you did see me have when you were at Arundel. I have written to your groome Ned, to have hir drenched and set to grasse that shee may be able to doe mee some service this summer. I besiech you that if shee can doe you any service that you would make use of hir. I desire you that you would give this bearer thanks for his willingnesse to doe me servise. My troope as yet is as it was, yet still myselfe and it at your dispose. As I have told you, my desire is only to be with you, if my coming up to you may any way further it I shall willingly finde a vacant time."

The House of Commons.

[1643, April ?]—Impeachment by the House of Commons on behalf of Edmund Lynold, rector of "Heyling" in Lincolnshire of William Laud, Archbishop of Canterbury, Matthew Wren, Bishop of Ely, Joseph Hall, Bishop of Exeter, Sir Nathaniel Brent and others, late Commissioners for the King in ecclesiastical causes, and also against Lawrence Carlisle and others, for the illegal deprivation of his living of Heyling aforesaid.

The Parliament.

1643. April 24—Order by both houses of Parliament to Sir Edward Askew of Kelsey and others to sequestrate the parsonage house of Heyling and the glebe lands, tithes, rents, and profits of the church, and to pay and deliver the same to Edward Lynold till further order. *Copy. See Lords Journals, same date.*

The Same.

1643, May 6—Order appointing Sir Robert Harley master and worker of the Mint, and appointing Cornelius Holland, Collector of the profits arising to the King from the Mint. *Copy. See Lords Journals, same date.*

BRILLIANA, LADY HARLEY to her husband, SIR ROBERT HARLEY, at Mr. Abraham Hyde's in Distaff Lane.

1643, June 11—I thank God we are yet safe and do not hear of any soldiers in the country worth speaking of. Still there must be some, for Mrs. Tomkins being very sick, and Doctor Wright being her physician, Mr. Stiles wrote to him with earnest petition to come to her, and promised to come to Mortimer Cross to meet him, and an argument to persuade him was that his friends had all the command of the soldiers in the country, but Doctor Wright durst not go.

I hear Wall says he will keep the ground he has put his cattle in, and will pay the rent as well as any of the rest of the tenants; but I believe, if he can prevail, none shall pay any, for they do not. I pray you take order that the rent may be paid to the King for they make that an excuse, because, as that is not paid they are in danger of having their rent drawn away.

Honest Peter came from Shrewsbury yesterday out of prison. He has been pitifully used. Mr. Rowley and his son and eight more are sent to Worcester prison.

I pray you to let Brill make me a plain black silk gown of as cheap a stuff as it is possible, without lace, for I cannot send to any town for anything. My Lady Vere's measure for bigness will serve me. Mr. Moore is with me, and he is a great comfort. I pray you tell his father so.

The HOUSE OF LORDS.

1643, June 16—Order for the delivery to Sir Robert Harley of Viscount Conway's horses and other goods now in Captain Washbourne's possession. *See Journals of the House of Lords and of the House of Commons. Same date.*

SIR ROBERT HARLEY to FRANCIS EDGOCK, at Hill Hall.

1643, June 17—Sending him a copy of the preceding order, and directing him to make an inventory of all the goods of Viscount Conway remaining at Hill Hall in Essex, and to take them into his custody and keep them safely till further order. *Signed.*

PRIAM DAVIS to his cousin, CAPTAIN EDWARD HARLEY.

1643, July 3. Gloucester—"Upon Sunday last in the morning your mother had intelige[nce] that my Lord Mullenax was beatne out of Lankissere and came to Leominster with about two hundred horse which hee putt into Weggnall into the standinge grass. Sir, hee hath noe arms or very few: which made my Lady dispatch mee away upon Sunday about noone, to Colonell Massie to seeke two trowps of horse which would not only take these two hunared but allso breake the knott that is now tieinge in that perfideous county. Colonell Vaveser is made governer, Lingen, high sheereff, Pye and Smalman raysinge trowps and warantes. I shewd forth that the light horse should apere on Tewsday the 4th of July, but faylinge of supply here, and havinge an injunction to returne with all posible speede to your noble mother, with whom had I a thousand lives I would—so far as I know myne owne hart—laye them all downe in hir service and defenc.

I humbly offer the business which is of greate concearnement, to your care, and shall returne because our garison is thinne, allthough I much desire to see my noble captaine. Sir, besides theese, Colonell Howard hath about fifty Walons and Duch men unarmed at Aston, with about fifty buff sadles, and entends to steale horses for them, only him selfe horsed upon a hansum yonge filly much tenderer than Madam Purr. Theese with two or three hundred horse, two trowps might very easily carie away. I hope if the new publique prevent not, you will have an eye towards us." *Seal of arms.*

Captain Edward Harley.

1643, July [13]—A list of Captain Edward Harley's troopers who were wounded or lost their arms or horses in the field. *Two lists, one smaller and varying.*

Edward Harley to Sir Robert Harley, at Westminster.

1643, July 15, Bristol—"Thursday last I receaved yours of the 6th by Robert Rudhall, which brought mee the most wellcome newes, the assurance of your health, which I have not receaved in many dayes before. I beseech you give these leave to bring you an account of what has passed between the Cornish army and ours. Monday, the 3rd of July, wee heard the enemy began to advance from Froome in Somerset towards Bath, upon which, wee drew up all our horse and foote upon Clirkton Downe, fronting towards the enemy, and Collonell Burghill with his regiment of horse and some comanded foote advanced something neerer the enemy to make good a passe which led to Bath, and this proved one of our greatest disadvantages, for we were not able to send seconds in time, so that party was forced to quitt the place to the enemy and our army to retreate to Bath. The next morning wee marched to a hill called Lansdowne towards Glostershyre, where we continued all that day in bataglia, the enemy being in the same posture upon a hill over against us. In the afternoone we saluted the[m] with three peeces of canon, which they liked so ill they presently began to remove and wheeling something to the left, marched to a towne called Marshfeild allmost behind us. We fell upon theyr reare guard and beate them. Wenedsday morning, the enemy drew out towards us and presently began to retreate, which, Sir William perceaving, he sent out a party of horse with musketiers to fall upon them, which they did with very good success, but other partyes of our horse being engaged in places of disadvantage were forced to retire to the hill wee possessed. The enemy pursued hotly and got that ground where our ordinance was planted, but then our whole body of horse charged them with as much resolution as could be, and in particular Sir Arthur Heselrig and his regiment receaved then a push in the thigh with a pike. Our regiment charged twice, and in the second charge my bay horse was killed under mee, but I thanke God brought mee of well in this hot service. The enemy lost many of theyr bravest men, and the next morning it pleazed God that most of theyr[—] was blowne up, by which Sir Ralph Hopton and some others of quality were very sorely wounded. Friday, the 7th, the enemy began to march from Marshfeild towards Chipnam. Wee presently followed them, and upon Saterday in the afternoone we came in veiw of that towne, but were not able to make any attempt upon it. On Sunday they drew out of the towne towards us, and after two houres pause, marched way through the towne towards the Devises. We pursued them and quickly fell upon theyr reare, which

held us very good play till they had recovered the Devises, and the duske night hindred any further action. That evening I was sent with my owne and two other troopes to make good a high hill upon our left hand; upon which ground on Munday the 10th wee drew up all our army. The enemy did the like with theyr horse, upon the east side of the towne. Sir William Waller comanded our horse to fall upon them, which they would not stay for, but presently retreated into the Devises. Our musketiers began then to play hard upon the towne, but that night upon intelligence that the Earle of Craford was coming with supplies of amunition, two regiments of horse were comanded to intercept it in the night. A panick feare fell amongst us, and we gave fire upon one another, being in a miserable rout and confusion. With much adoe we rallyed most of our men, and advanced to a hill in our way, and there drew up in order for fight; which was no sooner done, but we discerned a great body of the enemyes in the same bottome where we were disordered. Wee resolved to charge them, Serjeant Major Jowett, who is a very gallant man, tooke my troope and another, and with them alone charged the enemy whom wee presently routed and pursued a great way, none of the other troopes coming in to second us, and brought away all their amunition. Tuesday and Wenedsday, our men playde hard upon the Devises, and upon Thursday last 'twas resolved to storme it, by which way by God's blessing there is no doubt but wee had taken it, but our good God, who knowes what is best for us, hath disappoynted that, for that morning the newes was brought that suplyes were come from Oxford. Presently, Sir William Waller drew up all his horse and foote to that hill which I mentioned was good by me. As soone as ever we came, there wer a very great body of the enemy, which wee found afterward to be betweene forty and fifty colors of horse besides dragoones, but at the very first charge all our horse run away and left our foote, who behaved themselves very bravely as long as they were able to defend themselves, and then shifted for themselves. We have not lost many men, considering what a miserable rout we were in. All our canon, bagage, and amunition are lost and very many armes. We must needs looke upon this as the hand of our God, mightily agaynst us for 'twas hee only that made us flye. We had very much self confidence, and I trust the Lord has only brought this upon us to make us looke more to him, who I am confident when we are weakest will shew himself a glorious God over the enemyes of his Truth. So this time nothing hath beene gayned by us, with multitudes, and I beseche the Lord give us fayth to live by that, and then I doubt not but our broken bones shall prevayle over the enemyes mighty strength."

Postcript—"Sir, I lost ten horses, and two men in the fight last weeke and this last time I have lost five or six more so that my troope is now very weake.

Sir Arthur Heselrig is hurt in three places, but not mortall. My brother Robert humbly begs your blessing. I thanke God we are both well, having the mercyes of our God very great to us in preserving us safe. I beseech you pardon this scribbling for I have not beene in a bed these twelve nights before." *Signet.*

W. Lord Saye and Sele to his kinsman, Sir Robert Harley.

1643, July 20—It troubled me that I could not be at liberty from disposing of that business of Kent till seven o'clock, at which time I went from the Star Chamber to the Guildhall, but it was so late, that you are disappointed. I account it my unhappiness that I should break with you an hour, when the money is ready for you.

BRILLIANA, LADY HARLEY to her husband, SIR ROBERT HARLEY.

1643, July 23—I thank you for sending me word of Ned Harley. We are all well at Brampton. I am very sorry for my Lord [Conway ?] and more than I can express. I wish you would send me word how it is with him. I have not heard a great while how Brill does.

EDWARD HARLEY.

1643, August 3.—A list of Edward Harley's troop. Officers, Edward Harley, captain; William Baas, lieutenant; Robert Harley, Cornet; Francis Cooke, quarter master. *Signed by Edward Harley.*

SIR JOHN CONYERS.

1643, August 12.—Acknowledgment of the receipt of 320*l.* from Sir Robert Harley according to an order of the House of Commons of the 10th August. *Signed.*

GEORGE GORING to his father, LORD GORING, at Court.

1643. August 15. The Tower—"I am newly come to the Tower where I heare by Sir Robert Harley that his Lady and his children are besieged in Brampton Bryan Castle in Herefordshyre by Collonel Vavasor. My humble request to your Lordship is that you will procure an order from Court to the officer that commands in that siege, to suffer my Lady Harley, her children and some servants to pass freely from thence to London without any violence to their persons, or any plundering of these horses or necessaryes which shee takes for her journey; and that shee may have a passe under the Genneral's hand as one of the principal Secretaryes of State for the security of her journey to London. This I know to be a worke very suitable to your Lordship's nature and custome; beside I have received such noble and civil usage from Sir Robert Harley since I came under his command that I am very happy to have this occasion offered of making some returne to him, though the quality, sex, and age of these persons for whome I solicit, does merit all fayre regard for theyr owne sakes."

GEORGE GORING to all GOVERNORS, COLONELS and all Officers of Horse or Foot in his Majesty's Armies.

1643, August 15. The Tower—"Whereas the bearer heerof——is to goe to Oxford with a letter of myne to my father, these are to desire all officers and souldiers of his Majestye's armyes to suffer thee sayd—— to go thither and returne agayn without any molestation, as I shall be ready to doe the same curtesye to any of you when I obtayne my liberty."

SIR JOHN SCUDAMORE to LADY HARLEY.

1643, August 24. Brampton—"I have your petition instead of an answer, which in my opinion is too long by twenty lines and to full of the spiritt of contradiction and expostulacions, yet since I can procure no better, I must returne with this which I shall doe, God willing, early in the morning. But, madam, I dare not promise the delivery of it to his Majesty, unles Sir William Vavasor encourage me to put it into your hart to returne a clearer and more satisfactory answer this evening, but truly, madam, I have so little expectation of peace to insue upon this, that I shall desire to be employed hereafter in something else that may be more pleasinge to your Ladyship.

I doe not finde whither your Ladyship doth expect till Sir William Vavasor's pleasure may bee knowne herein. If you please to expresse yourselfe herein I shall accordingly take order with the commanders that noe mistake arise hereabouts by the successeles negotiacion." *Copy.*

BRILLIANA, LADY HARLEY to SIR JOHN SCUDAMORE.

1643, August 24. Brampton Castle—"I do so firmely believe the goodenes and bounty of our gratious Kinge that I am confident if his Majesty were truly informed of my condition he would never command mee out of my howse, and therefore I must still desire liberty to have my humble desires presented to his Majesty by a hand that I may chuse and confide in. Can I thinke that those who have sought the life of myselfe and family will so solicite as to gayne mee that which I humbly desire of his Majesty. Sir, tho you have beene pleased to call the pleading of my innocency the spierit of contradiction, yet I pray you doe not judge aright, and then I must tell you that for this twelve months the gentlemen of this countrey have sought the ruine of my poore family, but the Lord of Heaven knowes not deserved by my deare husband and myselfe. Nay, I may truly say that yet there is so much good will in me to all you, that had I power to revenge what has bene done to me I should no way doe it.

Sir, what favors you are pleased to shew mee I hope you will never repente for they shall alwayes meete with thankfulnes and a hart ready to the utmost of my ability to answer it agayne in all the wayes of respectes." *Copy.*

SIR JOHN SCUDAMORE to [LADY HARLEY].

1643, August 25. Brampton—"I had a message that your Ladyship would speake with mee this morning, but it seemes that resolucion is altered. I wish that condition your Ladyship hath putt yourselfe in by this refusall of the Kinge's mercy might be as suddenly changed whilest it is in your owne power. I have dealt with the commanders here for the continuance of this cessacion untill further order from Sir William Vavasour.

Now, Maddam, give me leave to tell your Ladyship that I am of opinion that this refusall of the Kinge's mercy hath put yourself and all those your friendes and servants with you, in the condition of rebells, and when soe ever hereafter—possibly the King's great mercy and your heasty repentance—may reduce you and them into the estate of loyalty, I conceive you and every one of them—to be safe—must obtayne pardons under the great seale which will not be without charge and trouble. Madame, I humbly presse your Ladyship's handes being ready to take horse after a little breakefast to strengthen me for my journey to Court."

Postscript.—"Madame, I am heartily sorry to heare—since I came hither—the pittyfull cries of the poore people of this neighbourhood against the ill counsell your Ladyship hath followed to their and your owne miserie, whych obstinacy is like to increase to their utter ruine and destruction." *Copy.*

SIR JOHN CONYERS to his cousin, SIR ROBERT HARLEY.

1643, August 31. The Hague—"After we had taken our leaves of you in the Tower one the 10th of this present, we made what haest we could into the Downes, wheare attending the getting a convoye and the winde being sometims contrarye, we stayed till Fridaye morning, the

25th. Then with a good winde and very good weather, we putt to sea and landed saufe and well the next daye in the eavening, at Rotterdam; praiesed be God. We are nowe in the Hage wheare we shall staye tenne dayes at least, and then are to goe into Zelande wheare the greatest part of our business lyes.

I can wright to you litell niewse from hence. I doe asure my self you have hearde of the blowe the younge Prince of Orange, Generall of the State's horse hath given to Cantelmoe, the Generall of a litell army of the Spanish, neare Antwarpe wheare the Count Cantelmoe himself was onc taken prisoner but suckered by the Comissarie Generall of the horse of that army, whoe by rescueing him was taken prisoner himself, with at least forty officers more, and many of good qualitie.

The Prince of Orange is yeat in campaigne with his army, but had bine in garison before this time had not the French embasadore perswaded the States to kepe the feild a whille longer.

I finde the people heare generally to be much afflicted with the distressed estate of our cuntrie, and they liekwise knowe it concerns them nearely.

Your poore cosine and I desire hartily to heare that your vertuous Ladye is released from hir great afflictoin and we earnestly praye for it, and for the good sucksesse of you and all yours, as truly we are obliged toe not only because we have the honer to be called your cosins but for your affectione to us in perticuler, and for the many good offices you have ever bine readye to doe us." *Seal of Arms.*

Edmund Hakluyt to Edward Harley.

1643, September 19. Charterhouse—At Sir Arthur Haslerig's you intimated to me that the aspersion cast upon me by Stringer had come to Sir Arthur's ears. My desire then was and is that you should have such regard to your honour as to waive my services. I am confident I am not a bastard, nor can the breath of such a calumniator poison or blast my reputation.

Sir William Waller to [Sir Robert Harley].

1643, September 23. Windsor—"The Committee of Grocers Hall have made some scruple of issueing money upon my warrant. My request to you is to move the House of Commons that such moneys as have been collected for the raysing and payment of forces under my command may not be reserved for the payment of some private troopes only, but for the levying of these foote regiments yet not raysed; and that the Committee of the Militia doe repay to Grocers Hall such moneys as have been borrowed of them, all to be disposed according to my warrants for the use of the whole."

The Committee of Safety to Sir Gilbert Gerrard, Treasurer.

1643, September 23—Order to pay 500*l.* to Mr. Robert English, merchant of London. *Signed by* the Earl of Bolingbroke, Nathaniel Fiennes, John Pym, Anthony Nicoll, and another.

The Committee of Safety to Sir Robert Harley.

1643, September 29—Order for the repayment to Sir Robert Harley out of the first moneys which come to the Treasurer's hands of 500*l.* advanced by him for the necessities of the garrison at Berwick, and 320*l.* lent to Sir John Conyers. *Signed* by John Pym and four others.

BRILLIANA, LADY HARLEY to her daughter, BRILLIANA HARLEY.

1643, October 7—I thank you for your letter. I believe you always longed to see me but now much more because I have been appointed to death by my enemies but preserved by my God.

Your dear father says he would have me come from Brampton. I long to do so but there is no stirring without a convoy. Tell your brother I had a letter from my brother before Gloucester, at the King's Court. I did not think to have had such a letter from him.

My dear Brill I am still amongst my enemies, but my comfort is that are so without a cause.

All the papists from many parts were gathered against me when I was besieged, and they had sent to all parts for guns and engineers. Present my service to Lady Vere, the best and wisest woman I know.

Be careful of yourself and the Lord bless you and, dear Brill, long to see your affectionate mother.

FRANCIS HAKLUYT to COLONEL EDWARD HARLEY, at Westminster.

1643, October 11. Sudbury—Giving an account of his efforts to raise a company, and asking for money.

BRILLIANA, LADY HARLEY, to her husband, SIR ROBERT HARLEY.

1643, October 16. Brampton—I long to hear from you whether you would have me come from Brampton, and how I should come.

On Sabbath day last Sir William Vavasour sent me a letter from my brother by a trumpeter and wrote me one from himself. His letter was after his usual strain, that he must proceed against me as an enemy because I had taken from my tenants what they owed me; but I hope this winter will hinder their desires against me. In Hereford there are seven hundred soldiers with Sir William Vavasour and the rest of Hereford gentry. In Leominster there is seven score soldiers and in Kingsland, fifty. Gregory Wall is their captain. At Kingston there are fifty horse billeted and at Presteign the county troop. Young that was your servant is made a captain, and his soldiers billeted in Arnstey and Darval. They say they will send soldiers to Wigmore Castle. I have put some in who I hope will keep it. Colonel Massey could spare me but eight men and a barrel of powder and a small quantity of match. My brother's letter did much trouble me, he persuades me to that which I think he does not well weigh. It has pleased God to exercise me with many troubles but my God has not yet left me, and I hope he will not. Dear Sir pray for me, for I have great need of it, that the Lord would never leave me to myself, but to guide me by his wisdom that I may be able to deal with the subtle and malicious enemies that are against me. Mr. Moore is a great help to me that I may more cheerfully undergo the great burden that is upon me.

All the children are well but I have taken an exceeding great cold which much troubles me.

I beseech the Lord to preserve you and to give you a comfortable meeting with your most affectionate wife. I have scarce time to write which has made me scribble.

FRANCIS HAKLUYT to COLONEL EDWARD HARLEY, at Westminster.

1643, October 22.—I have received the 10*l.* which you sent me. If you intend to raise any more men or to lead those I have raised to any

rendezvous you must send me more money. I make bold to tell you that I am "an admiration to the gentlemen and officers of the cuntry because I have so long rested idly at one place without orders to advance. The trained bands of Suffolke are alreddy drawen towards Cambridge. On Munday next Captain Tindell's company of two hundred men are to be quartered where I lye." If I be thrust out of my quarters and look for new ones I may go myself, for my soldiers will forsake me and truly I am doubtful whether they would let me go alive. I beseech therefore to be accommodated with necessaries and to have warrants of assistance, without which I am not able to fetch up a runagate. The trained bands being commanded to be in readiness to give their men 12*d.* a day to bear their arms, by that means all my men will be entertained if not presently paid. *Signet.*

[Samuel Moore] to [Richard Sankey.]

[1643, October 29]—This bearer is hastened by reason of my Lady Harley's falling ill. About a week since she had a fit of the stone, and by the Doctor's careful and effectual means it dissolved, and she became well and ready to come abroad. On Friday night the cough took, that hindered her sleep, and having something to stay it, she rested and was pretty well, till about eleven o'clock yesterday she fell into a fit and was seized with apoplexy, lethargy, and convulsions. When Dr. Wright came she was past sense, but he used means to bring her by four o'clock in the evening both to sense and put us into good hopes of recovering. This morning at four o'clock she was something ill again, so the careful doctor advises me to address this messenger to you to acquaint Sir Robert. If the Lord should take the sweet lady, it is necessary there should be a head of the family. In my judgment the Colonel had best come. *Two copies slightly differing.*

The Same to [the Same].

Same date—This messenger was prepared to follow the other immediately but after, we thought to stay him till we saw an alteration, so at six o'clock this Sabbath day the sweet lady's soul went to keep the eternal Sabbath in heaven, where she can never be besieged. Moderate the good Knight's grief when you can, and if the Colonel and Captain be in London, do what you can to comfort them, And now, Sir, I beseech you, press the Colonel's coming as soon as may be.

Sir R. H[arley] to Nathaniel Wright and Samuel Moore, at Brampton.

1643, November 4. Westminster—I have received the sad news that the Lord has taken from me my dear wife. I entreat you both to manage the affairs of my estate, to receive my rents and to keep my home for the King and Parliament against all opposers. I would have my children with you and my nephew Smith guided by your counsels. If any of my servants refuse your government, I give you full power to remove them. *Draft.*

Colonel Edward Harley.

1643, November 15—The particulars of what are necessary to complete and arm Colonel Harley's regiment of 1,200 foot.—

	£	s.	d.
To pay 300 men already raised five weeks pay due -	408	6	8
For levy money to complete the regiment - -	300	0	0

	£	s.	d.
For a month's pay for officers and soldiers -	1312	0	0
For drums, colours, halberts, and partizans -	80	0	0
To furnish the surgeon's chest - - -	15	0	0

To arm the regiments, 800 muskets, of which 150 are desired to be fire-locks, 400 pikes, 1200 swords and belts.

To clothe them, caps, coats, shoes, stockings, shirts and knapsacks.

For every company a leather powder bag to contain 100lb. of gunpowder.

HARBOTTLE GRIMSTON to SIR THOMAS BARRINGTON, SIR ROBERT KEMP and the rest of the Deputy Lieutenants of Essex.

1643, November 17—The House of Commons have designed the men raised in Essex by Colonel Harley for a present service in the west, and are taking order for their speedy remove out of our county, therefore I desire you to forbear to disband them or take them from their officers for any other service, which I understand by Colonel Harley you intended.

SIR THOMAS BARRINGTON, SIR ROBERT KEMP and others to HARBOTTLE GRIMSTON, at his house in Little Britain.

1643, November 18. Chelmsford—We hope we shall not be found disobedient to the House of Commons, but we shall be both discouraged and disabled to proceed in the present service if such contradictions of superior commands be issued. The Earl of Manchester required us to enlist men raised in our county by virtue of Sir William Waller's commission, under captains whom his Lordship sent us, and enjoined us to prohibit the raising of any more but for the service under his Lordship, which power we are confident he received, either from the Committee for Safety or the House of Commons. We desire you therefore to represent this to your Committee and to the House, that in general it will be rendered impossible for us to supply the Earl of Manchester, if these very men whom we have impressed shall be received by other captains, as volunteers. And truly the county cannot be well satisfied that while they are still charged with so difficult a service as we find the levy of men to be, especially in this winter season, even those of our own country shall be taken from us by command of Parliament. We find also the country ready to mutiny in respect of the rapine committed by soldiers for want of pay. We assure you we find a general discontent in the county to admit any more impressing or levying of foot for the present, if those they have impressed and furnished and others they have resolved on be taken from us, and we under no less engagement. *Seven signatures.*

W. ROWE, RICHARD EVERARD, and others to the CHIEF CONSTABLES, PETTY CONSTABLES, and HEADBOROUGHS of Essex.

1643, December 4. Chelmsford—Warrant to apprehend runaway soldiers belonging to Colonel Edward Harley's regiment, and to send them to Tilbury-hope. *Five Signatures.*

The COMMITTEE for advance of money to Scotland to their TREASURER.

1643, December 8—Order for the repayment to Sir Robert Harley of 500*l.* advanced by him for the maintenance of the garrison at Berwick. *Four signatures.*

EDMUND HALL, FRANCIS HAKLUYT and THOMAS DUTTON to COLONEL [EDWARD] HARLEY.

1643, December 11, Deal—Announcing their safe arrival in the Downs but complaining of the bad accommodation provided for their men on board ship and their want of clothes, drums, colours, and other necessaries. *Signed.*

FRANCIS HAKLUYT to COLONEL EDWARD HARLEY, at Westminster.

1643, December 18—On Saturday we were within sight of the Isle of Wight, but a south west wind compelled us to sail back to the Downs. Our men wanting "heymakes" or mats on board the *Leaper*, are sick, and those on board the Vice admiral with me are much weakened and greatly discontented. I beseech you to instruct the Plymouth gentlemen to supply us with colours and other necessaries or to send them to the Downs. If we fail of these things we shall be accounted madmen or fools. I beseech you to mind the poor soldiers, that they may be supplied with like clothing with the other company now aboard with us.

THOMAS REA to CAPTAIN JAMES BRAYNE.

1643, December 18. On board the *Swallow* in the Downs—To the same effect as the preceding letter.

EDWARD CONWAY to his uncle, SIR ROBERT HARLEY.

1643[–4], January 20. Belfast—I thank you for your great obligation in preserving my father's books, which were mine and were to be sent to me. Mr. Trayle tells me that you have got them and that you had to pay money for them, which is a great injustice to me that I should be so injured on his account.

The English colonels in this province are met here to answer the letter from the Parliament. I assure you, when the service goes on again, my father's regiment will be found the strongest, for they are kept entire and none of them gone into England, and therefore best able to serve them, which I know they will do, "which is very strange if they should not consider, but take away his estate, which they would not do if they were rightly informed." *Signet.*

THOMAS REA to COLONEL EDWARD HARLEY, at Westminster.

1643[–4], January 23. Plymouth—It grieves me that an officer that hath taken no pains nor been at any charge should come so easily to this gallant company. We are as yet assigned to no officer. The charge imposed by yourself is not yet taken off my shoulders. We are yet freed from duty. The enemy hath not as much as given us an alarm since our landing. They are raising new forces in Cornwall by way of imprest, and have taken a covenant to resist the Scots and subdue the rebels in Plymouth. Yesterday Colonel Gould possessed himself of the fort and Sir Francis [Drake] Island by virtue of a commission, which has bred no good blood between Colonel Wardlow, the General of Devon and Cornwall, and him.

The town, by reason that the enemy are possessed of Mount Stamford and are quartered three miles from the town, has a scarcity of provisions. It is a gallant garrison town, has many outworks and most of them anciently built. It wants nothing but good pay and store of provision.

Mr. Kekewich, one of the undertakers for Plymouth, when we complain for arrears, does not scruple to say that you have received 100*l.* more than you can account for. I reply that you have expended at least 60*l.* out of your own purse. *Signet.*

Richard Owen to Sir Robert Harley.

1643[-4], February 5. London—Asking him to intercede on his behalf with the Council; his only fault having been that his conscience would not allow him to abandon the episcopate. *Latin. Signet.*

The House of Commons.

1643[-4], February 5—Order that the produce of the goods, copes, and surplices seized at Whitehall, and also the plate in Sir Henry Mildmay's custody belonging to the King, be employed in payment to Lady Essex of the arrears due to her late husband Sir William Essex, and the remainder to Colonel Venn for payment of the arrears due to the garrison at Windsor. *See Journals of the House of Commons. Same date.*

Thomas Rea to Colonel Edward Harley, at Westminster.

1643[-4], February 8. Plymouth—The soldiers of your regiment are paid weekly, but the officers have only received one week's pay. I am sorry to be disappointed of doing service for the state under your command.

E. Earl of Manchester to —— Hall, at St. John's.

[1644?] February 23. Cambridge—Concerning scandals in the University. *Signed.*

Leonard Brook.

1644, April 17—Information of Timothy Robins, who said he had heard Leonard Brook, Keeper of the monuments in the Church at Westminster pray for the good success of the King's army and said he hoped to see the Parliamentary forces overthrown. *In Sir Robert Harley's handwriting.*

The Assembly of Divines to the Lords and Commons.

1644, April 20—The humble advice of the Assembly of Divines sitting at Westminster, concerning the doctrinal part of the Ordination of Ministers.

See Journals of the Houses of Lords and Commons, same date. Also Neal's History of the Puritans, Vol. III., p. 126.

Copy of the original document, with alterations in Sir Robert Harley's handwriting. Eight pages.

Captain Edmund Hall to Colonel Edward Harley, at Westminster.

1644, April 25. Plymouth.—Giving an account of skirmishes at Plympton Bridge and elsewhere near Plymouth with Sir Richard Grenville's and Captain Currie's forces. *Signet.*

CAPTAIN THOMAS DUTTON to COLONEL EDWARD HARLEY or SIR ROBERT HARLEY.

1644, April 25. Plymouth—Asking their interference in the questions of precedence which had arisen between Captain Hall and himself. *Signet.*

THOMAS REA to COLONEL EDWARD HARLEY.

1644, April 25—On the same subject as the preceding letter *Signet.*

THE COLLEGIATE CHURCH at Westminster.

1644, April 30—A list of plate. White Plate—Two silver flagons, one silver basin and ewer, two silver spout pots, three great silver college pots, nine little silver college pots, three silver flat bowls, three broken "eares" of silver, one salt, one chafing dish, two broken little bowls, a top of a silver salt, two dozen and three whole silver spoons and two broken spoons.

Gilt plate—Two basins and ewers parcel gilt, four gilt salts and one trencher salt, three flat bowls whereof two broken, one gilt bowl and ewer in four pieces, three small gilt bowls and covers. *Signed by Sir Robert Harley, John Dryden, and W. Ashurst.*

The SAME.

1644, May 13—The weight of the College plate. Clean gilt, 16 lb. 7 oz. Parcel gilt 15 lb. 4 oz. White plate, 59 lb. 10 oz. The total when melted produced 279*l.* 13*s.* 3*d.*

SIR ROBERT HARLEY to the MERCHANT STRANGERS.

1644, May 22—Asking on behalf of the Committee appointed by ordinance of Parliament, for a loan in order to relieve the garrison in Gloucester under Colonel Massey and to check the incursions of the Irish rebels. The loan to be repaid with eight per cent. interest by putting the ordinance of excise in execution and by sequestrating the estates of malignants and papists in the counties of Gloucester, Hereford, Monmouth, Glamorgan, Brecknock, and Radnor. *Draft.*

MICHAEL WOODHOUSE, Governor of Ludlow Town and Castle to all FIELD OFFICERS in his Majesty's quarters, and the Governors of his Towns and Castles.

1644, May 30. Ludlow Castle—Warrant to permit Sir John Scudamore to whom Thomas Harley and Dorothy and Margaret his sisters, three of the children of Sir Robert Harley, with Elizabeth Blechley and Katherine Hakluyt and their servants, who had been taken prisoners in Brampton Bryan Castle, had been delivered, to take such course as he should think fit for their conveyance to Sir Robert Harley in London. *Signed. Signet.*

The SAME to the SAME.

Same date—Warrant to permit the bearer to go to London to Sir Robert Harley concerning the course to be pursued in regard to his children who had been taken prisoners. *Signed. Signet.*

COLONEL EDWARD MASSEY to the OFFICERS and SOLDIERS under his command.

1644, June 3—Warrant to permit Thomas Harley, his sisters, servants, and others to pass from Hereford to Gloucester without molestation. *Signed.*

COLONEL EDWARD MASSEY to THOMAS HARLEY.

1644, June 3. Gloucester—I rejoice to hear of your release and let you know that you have no servant living who would more willingly be of service to you and your sisters. If you obtain a safe conduct for my coach and that you want any help for your travel to this garrison I will send you one; or if Sir John Scudamore will be so courteous as to give you a fitting conveyance I shall not only rest his thankful servant but will also send you a safe conduct and passport to Hereford. If Sir John Scudamore in his person shall show you so much respect, his person with me shall find the entertainment of a friend.

F. VISCOUNTESS CONWAY to her brother[-in-law], SIR ROBERT HARLEY.

1644, June 5. Hill Hall—I shall have occasion to use those things which I left with you in the Tower, therefore I beg you to let me have them. I heard this morning from Sir Thomas Barrington's daughter; she says she will be here very shortly. Her father-in-law by a former husband has been very sick and there is something more to fall to her by his death. Whether he be recovered or dead I cannot tell. I should be very glad to hear your children were come to you. *Signet.*

SIR ROBERT HARLEY to [the EARL OF ESSEX].

1644, June 6. Westminster—Asking for a letter to the Earl of Forth for the discharge of his children and the exchange of the rest of the prisoners taken at Brampton Castle. *Draft.*

SIR GILBERT GERARD.

1644, June 11—Acknowledgment of the receipt from Sir Robert Harley of 100*l.* on behalf of Lady Essex. *Signed.*

THOMAS BLAYNEY to his cousin, SIR ROBERT HARLEY.

1644, June 12. Gloucester—The Committee of Gloucester have sent to me for an account of the treasury and magazine, which I have rendered. I hear that some persons have endeavoured to supplant me in my place for no cause that I know of. I humbly desire you therefore to tell the Committee that you know me. *Signet.*

COLONEL EDWARD MASSEY to all OFFICERS and SOLDIERS in the Parliament Army.

1644, June 27—Warrant to permit Thomas Harley and his sisters and the rest of their company with their coach-horses to pass from Gloucester to London. *Signed.*

JOHN BRIDGES to——

1644, June 28. Warwick Castle—To the same effect as the preceding.

NATHANIEL WHETHAM, Governor, to all OFFICERS and SOLDIERS in service for the King and Parliament.

1644, July 1. Northampton—To the same effect as the preceding. *Signed.*

COLONEL EDWARD MASSEY to COLONEL [EDWARD] HARLEY.

1644, July 6. Gloucester—You may be assured that no-one would be more glad to embrace you than myself and to see your desires completed, for we want your company and desire to hasten the same. Next I shall desire you to move for some arms for Mr Broughton's regiment of foot. I know he will be of good use to you and the State, in Herefordshire. I present my services to your father, and desire to kiss the hands of your sisters, and brother Mr Robert. *Signet.*

[The KING] to RICHARD HARDING.

1644, August 6—*See Walker's Historical Discourses, p.* 53.

ALEXANDER RIGBY to his "brother" [COLONEL LEE].

1644, August 7—Sir Robert Harley will send a trumpeter for Lieutenant Colonel Wright and his man, and will defray half the charge, and upon their enlargement in exchange for you you need not fear to be enlarged, and therefore Sir Robert expects your letters to be addressed unto the place where Colonel Wright is prisoner, for his enlargement. *On the same sheet is a copy of the order of the House of Commons for the exchange of Colonel Lee for Colonel Wright.*

——— to SIR RICHARD GRENVILLE.

1644, August 7—"His Majesty is advanced to the entrance of Pinnocke Downe and our armies wilbee tomorrow at Newbridge above Glynfoord. Therefore you are—if you think you may with safety—to to march to Bodmin tomorrow night. But if you cannot, then to march to Saint Collembe and so to Bodmin the next day, advertizinge us with speed by divers messengers, which of these two resolutions you have taken." *Copy.*

The EARL OF BRENTFORD to COLONEL MASSEY, Governor of Gloucester.

1644, August 11—"To what you desire concerning the exchange of prisoners I can give you no positive answer at this time, because I neither know what men of yours are prisoners in Oxford nor what men of ours you have prisoners at Gloucester; so soone as I am informed herein or that I come neare those parts I shall be very ready to give you all the satisfaction I can, whereby I may appeare your ready friend to serve you. *Signed.*

TIMOTHY WOODROFFE to COLONEL HARLEY, at Gloucester.

1644, August 12—Sending his son, and recommending him for a clerk's place.

JOHN, VISCOUNT TRACY to his nephew, COLONEL HARLEY.

1644, August 12—"I sent this gentleman, a kinsman of yours, to waite upon the committee in my stead, who, the last weeke, sent a party

of horse to seize upon my goods and sequester my estate without the least mention of a crime alleadged against me. I hope the constitution of this kingdome remaines still, which condemnes no man unheard; and I am sure if the plea of innocency hold good, my case is most secure, and howsoever I suffer outwardly I shall ever possess that for my comforter. Cosen, you cannot be ignorant of my condition, how I stand to the world; my charge is great, and the weight of my debts insupportable if my estate be taken away, which should overcome them. You know my Lady Vere hath all from me shee lives on, of which if I faile, the estate is no more mine but hers, and therefore her sufferings are to be considered in mine. Cosen, I doubt not but you will doe me all the right and favour that lies in your power, both for my sister's and my own sake."

JOHN NANFAN to his cousin, COLONEL HARLEY.

1644, August 14. Brutes Norton—I am writing to you at the desire of my kinsman Giles Nanfan, a prisoner, "who hopes your favor to be "the gate for him to pass out by."

JOHN, VISCOUNT TRACY to his nephew, COLONEL HARLEY.

1644, August 14—I cannot but return my thanks to you for your love towards me. These evil days deny me outward demonstration of love to those I am beholden to; but if you please to accept of my good will in slender tokens, such as are left me, I shall take it as an addition to your kindness. My nephew informs me that Mr. Bromach was very favourable in my behalf; if he will accept of such venison as my park yields, I shall be very thankful to him. *Signet.*

BRILLIANA HARLEY to her brother, COLONEL HARLEY, at Gloucester.

1644, August 19. Westminster—Since you went we have been most lamentably robbed; it was a mercy they did not kill us for they were very near. They took a hundred pounds in money, besides clothes. My cousin Vere and my Lady were lately in town. The sickness much increases. I have sent you a box of dried oranges.

THOMAS HARLEY to his brother, COLONEL EDWARD HARLEY, at Gloucester.

1644, August 22. Paul's Churchyard—I am glad to hear you are well and that the hurt you received is almost cured. I believe you have heard how the thieves robbed us. It was a mercy they did my father no hurt for they were desperate rogues. Three of them are in Newgate. They would not confess when first they were there, though some things were found with them but now I hope my father will have most of his money again.

Lords Maguire and Macmahon escaped last week out of the Tower. If there be any news the philosopher Ralph will bring it in folio.

I now go to school to Mr. Langley at Paul's School, and board at Mr. Stevens the bookseller.

I have sent your sword down by Ralph Lowke. *Signet.*

THOMAS TRACY to his cousin, COLONEL HARLEY.

1644, August 24—Your favours are too great to be passed by insensibly. I desire the continuance of them, which you may do by

taking the occasion now offered. Mr. Pury, who bears no good will to gentlemen, will have my Lord to be a delinquent, in which condition he will refer him to Parliament, and Lady Vere falls not under his notice, though she hath nothing else to live on but from this place. There is no way but for us to appeal to the Parliament, and my Lord would therefore entreat you to acquaint your father with the business and give notice to Lady Vere of what she has to suffer. *Signet.*

PRINCE MAURICE to the MAYOR and CORPORATION of BARNSTAPLE.

[1644], August 24. Exeter—Informing them that owing to the recent successes of the King's armies in the north and west, the Earls of Holland, Bedford, and Clare, Lord Lovelace, and divers members of the House of Commons, had come over to the King. Also that the Lords of Northumberland, Pembroke, and Salisbury had deserted the party and retired from London, and that not above seven remained in the House of Lords, and only a fifth part of the Commons. Finally offering them free pardon and favourable terms if they would disband all their extraordinary forces. *Copy.*

NATHANIEL WRIGHT to COLONEL HARLEY, at Gloucester.

1644, September 2, Salop—Concerning the arrangements for his exchange.

JOHN VENN to SIR ROBERT HARLEY.

1644, September 4—Acknowledgment of the receipt of 100*l.* out of the produce of the copes seized at Whitehall. *Signed.*

COLONEL EDWARD MASSEY to COLONEL HARLEY.

1644, September 5—"These few lynes are to lett you knowe that this night I intend to quarter att Wooten-under-Edg, where if you have any thinge of intelligence I shall expect it. You may comaund Scoutmaster Donne to send it forward to mee this night if anything come to your knowledge. Wee had hoped this day to have beene in Bath, which myselfe, your brother and two or three officers more with a party of one hundred horse faced yester eveninge aboute sunnsett. But my advertizement from the Committee of both kingdomes concerning Prince Rupert's other left behinde forces agreeing with your advertizement, by Scoutmaster Dunne againe seconded, bids mee have an ey to Gloucester and that part of the cuntry, and to endevour to impedite those forces in their march what I can, which now must be my care." *Signed.*

The SAME to the SAME.

1644, September 6. Wooton—"I returne yow thankes for your care of intelligence. As for Prince Rupert's horse intended for the reliefe of Banbury I conceive not, but rather that they will endeavour Bristoll, to come to the Prince, and to take their passage through Worster. I shall desire that the greate morter peece may be sent to Sudly and so to Banbury when their convoy cometh to Sudly to fech it, and lett the granadoe shells bee also sent that belonge to that peece, for it wil be ill taken if we should deny them any reasonable assistance in our power; and although the peeces belong to Sir William Waller, yet hee haveing noe use of them for his army, it would be fitter they be used in the

service then to ly still at Gloucester; for the smaller morter pece, I shall use that myselfe very shortly. I am now upon my march to Berckley, where yours may finde me." *Signed. Signet.*

BRILLIANA HARLEY to her brother, COLONEL HARLEY.

1644, September 8. Westminster—"London is now in a sade posture. They cry out extremely against Sir William W[aller] that he made no more hast. The Prince Elector is here and saith he will take up arms for the Parliament and doe anything they will have him doe." I am very sorry to hear that your arm is not well. *Signet.*

J. VISCOUNT TRACY to his nephew, SIR ROBERT HARLEY.

1644, September 9. Hailes—My relation to you makes me confident of your assistance in any business that concerns me, especially when Lady Vere is interested in it. Your son has befriended me to the utmost of his power, and I believe, has certified you of the business which the Committee would not decide, and yet have condemned my estate, with out having any consideration of the circumstances of the action of which I stand accused or of the condition of my estate. *Signed. Signet.*

THOMAS TRACY to his cousin, COLONEL HARLEY.

1644, September—I need not desire you to continue your friendly offices, but I presume to put you in mind to call upon Colonel Massey for his opinion and direction concerning my father, and to see what may be done in my Lord's business.

COLONEL E. M[ASSEY] to COLONEL HARLEY.

1644, [September 12]—"I kindly salute you and pray for your health, which if you enjoy I hope you will care the more for the garrison there and comaund Donne to send out spyes towards Bristoll and Bath; which wil be best performed by Mr. Halford at Slymbridg, and lett me heare dayly from you, I beseech your honour, and be pleased to command the enclosed to be sent to Captain Mathews with all speede to send me thirty of his dragoons, for that is the thing I now want for our march. My Lord of Denbigh his three hundred horse are to joyne with our horse this day att Stanway Hill, whence we purpose to march towardes Banbury to releeve our beseigers there from the enemy's forces who ley last night about Alcester, and intend for Banbury. God in mercy assist us that we may help our friends."

The ASSEMBLY OF DIVINES to the HOUSE OF COMMONS.

1644, [September 13]—The humble return of the Assembly of Divines touching the order and copy of agreements concerning ordination of ministers in London *pro tempore*, sent by the House of Commons to the Assembly on the 30th August.

See Journal of the House of Commons, same date.

MAJOR ROBERT HARLEY to his brother, COLONEL EDWARD HARLEY, in Dean's Yard, Westminster.

1644, September 21. Tidenham—When we parted I went to Newnham where I met with your governor. The next day we drew forth our horse and foot into Little Deane and intended to march to Worcester that night. But neither Colonel Stephen's nor Lord Denbigh's

nor Ludlow's horse coming up to us, we marched no further than Little Deane. The next day we marched to Beachley with your troop and mine and the Governor's regiment and two of Colonel Stephen's troops. The Governor that day received a denial from Duet to march. He sent a letter to Stephens to know the reason why the rest of his troops did not march. He sent the Governor word they were not under his command and sent him the instructions from the Parliament in 1642 for the deputy lieutenants of Gloucestershire. The Governor hath sent the relation of our taking of Beachley up to the Committee, and has written to them for money for his horse, which he says the Committee do not provide. I think you would do well to get a sight of the Governor's letter.

Prince Rupert's horse which were at Evesham (Esum), now be beyond Wye, and we shall march towards them as soon as we can. I beseech you to remember the sending down of some arms, and saddles for your troop and mine.

Major Robert Harley to his brother, Colonel Edward Harley, in Dean's Yard, Westminster.

1644, October—I believe that long before this you have heard of the taking of Monmouth. Your Lieutenant-Colonel, and Major, and Captain Clare are raising their companies in the forest, and Captain Wallinger in other places about Gloucester. The Committee has not so much as furnished them with entertainment money, but I have borrowed some money and have paid to Winter and Throckmorton 5*l.* apiece, to Captain Clare 50*s.*, to Captain Archbold 20*s.*, for that there be going on in the entertaining of soldiers. Your ten drums, colours, and halberds, have come to Gloucester, but of what arms you have I can learn no certainty, but only of fifty firelocks in Colonel Stephen's custody. Your major is willing to further the raising of your regiment, but as for the Committee I find them willing to have it raised, but no one will give a helping hand. There is a backwardness in all your officers because they know not where the regiment shall be placed when it is raised; or if it be placed in Monmouth they know not who shall command it. They are all unwilling to be commanded by any but yourself. I am confident that if you were governor or any one under you whom Herefordshire might look on and assist, your regiment being designed for Herefordshire, you would soon have a gallant regiment, but if the government be put into other hands you must expect your soldiers and officers to disband.

The Governor spoke to me to raise a company of dragoons, of whom there is a great necessity, under your command, and to arm them with your firelocks, but I deferred till I heard from you. I beg you will send down some pistols and saddles for the recruits.

Francis Marson of Eaton is living in this town. I should like to know what my father would have done about the rent he owes and what course I shall take if our march be occasioned towards the places where his tenants live.

Major Throckmorton to Colonel Edward Harley.

1644, October 7. Monmouth—"I make noe question, but you are sensible of the ill condition in which you have left both my self and the rest of your officers here, by which we are utterly disabled to doe you service in the raisinge of your regement; howsoever, upon the takinge of Monmouth—which I believe you have heard of—I made shift to pro-

cure soe much money of the comittee as brought us hither, hopinge that we should have received a further supply for the raisinge of men, but we are even left to meere providence, procuringe neyther favour from the governor nor money from the comitee, soe that we are not able, eyther to goe forward or backward, nor know not what to doe with our selves; yet because I would not appeare backward to doe eyther the state or your self service I have begun—with some borrowed money—to raise some men, and if you shall be pleased to assist me by furnishinge me speedely with the advance money, which is allowed, and you have promised, I doubt not but I shalt gett up a faire company in a little time, otherwise I must lett it fall againe or els runn myself into such a condition as will not suffer me to die in the service with a quiet conscience, for I have not a purse of my owne sufficient to beare the charge of soe great a busines. My leutenant collonell is raisinge his men at Colford; Captain Clare went yesterday to Gloster, intendinge to raise men thereabout, if he can gett any money of the comittee. Captain Archibald likewise endeavours the same, and Captain Wallenger is allsoe returned to Gloster, in hopes to gett money to goe for the further side of the shire. Sir, the not raisinge of your regement in all this time hath very much retarded the reducinge of Monmouthshire, for this day we have certaine intelligence that Sir Charles Garret is come into the countrey with five hundred men and have taken possession of Uske Castle, and some other places fitt for garrisons, by the assistance of the countrey, which had bin more proper for us, if we had had men for that purpose. We are yet but in a confusion here, for the comitee and the governour cannot agree upon a governour for this place. 'Tis thought that the governour would have Broughton in, and some talks of Bachus, and Leutenant Collonell Kerle was recomended to my approbation by Mr Bromidge in a very serious manner, but I have protested against them all, declaringe my resolution not to serve under the comand of eyther of them, nor to raise a man for your regement to that purpose. I thought they would not have pitcht upon any man but your self for the comand, but they pretend—both the governour and the comittee—a great dislike to my leutenant collonell, who will expect the comand in your absence. I should be very glad to heare of your recovery, and to see you here in these parts, howsomever, prey Sir, lett me heare from you speedely and be pleased yett at last to thinke upon us to some purpose. I heare that drums, holbeartes and coulers are come to Gloster, but I know not yett where to find arms; therefore, prey Sir, take some course about it speedely. I thought to have received a shute of arms from London a month since, but I heare nothinge of them yet. My taylor shall lett you know whether they are sent or not. If not, lett me entreat the favour from you to buy me a paire of the same size and proofe that yours are of, and prey, Sir, send them downe with all the speed as may be for I shall want them much; and I would entreat you to lett your man fitt the pistolls with a hansome paire of holsters, faced with red velvett fringed and a spanner with a suitable stringe, and I will be acomptable to you for it. *Signet.*

Colonel Edward Massey to Colonel Edward Harley, at Westminster.

1644, October 6. Gloucester—I have reserved Monmouth and the government thereof for your coming, until God shall deliver up Hereford to us. I am something afflicted that such strange vagaries to my traducement should pass amongst the Committee without one gentle correcting hand. You would do well to move Sir Robert to procure

you some money to raise your regiment, and to take care that arms may be sent you. I desire likewise to solicit on behalf of your cornet and to get the resolution of the Council of War concerning his trial, for it is a pity he should be in misery and want without a trial. *Signet.*

The Same to the Same.

1644, October 23. Monmouth—I admonish you to get money to raise and keep your men together. Nothing is yet settled by our Committee in this country, neither have your officers yet done anything for raising your regiment. *Signet.*

The Same to the Same.

1644, October 28. Gloucester—The Committee are exceedingly backward in assisting the raising of your regiment. I have done all I can. It is not the least fault of the Committee that they do not present Parliament with the truth of things, as in their letter of Monmouth, in which county there is not one penny raised nor any rates made by the Committee. The enemies march forces me to conclude, and my march towards Ledbury to keep off Gerard with his Welsh forces, with whom all Hereford and Worcester join. *Signet.*

Major Robert Harley to his brother [Colonel Edward Harley].

1644, November 15. Gloucester—I thank you for your 100*l.* in gold, of which I believe I shall disburse very little towards raising your regiment until I see or hear from you. The condition of Monmouth is good for defence. There are in it the Governor's, Captain Rodiford's, Captain Elsing's, Captain Mallory's and Captain Mercer's companies; yours, your major's, and Captain Wallinger's are speedily to be drawn in. There is only your troop and mine which amount to eighty horse. The Governor has entirely refused me any part of the 500*l.*, which makes me desire you, if it be possible, to get some money for them. I hope I shall be able to keep them together till you come down, if you make haste.

Monmouth is not well fortified, which makes it necessary for you to bring down money that it may be provided with ammunition and guns.

The Committee disposes of all the malignants' estates at Monmouth very strangely, taking the benefit of them and disposing it not so much to your garrison as they should do.

In this garrison "dragooners" will be of much use, the country being full of narrow passages. Good gunners and men skilled in "fireworks" will be very requisite here, and easier to be provided in London than elsewhere. Your major is at present entrusted with the care of Monmouth till you come down.

Colonel Edward Harley.

1644, November—A list of his officers. Lieutenant Colonel Edward Winter. Major William Throckmorton. Captains Henry Archbold, James Wallinger, John Wish. Lieutenants Edward Mugford, Robert Brammam. Officers of his troop of horse: John Brayne, lieutenant; Henry Browne, quartermaster.

The Committee of Gloucester and Hereford to Colonel Massey, Governor of Gloucester.

1644, November 26. Grocer's Hall—An answer to a letter, assuring him that they do not wish to meddle in military matters, and expressing a hope that no differences will arise between them.

Postscript.—We have delivered unto Major Backhouse he other 500*l.* appointed by the House for your regiment of horse. *Draft.*

Major Robert Harley to his brother [Colonel Edward Harley].

1644, November 28—I wrote you the relation of the taking of Monmouth, as full as my distracted thoughts would permit me. In that letter I mentioned Worcester, which design miscarried.

As to the horse if you and my father like it, I think if I go with them into Montgomery to Sir Thomas Middleton, I may find an opportunity to get a footing in Herefordshire by placing some garrisons near and in the county. Howsoever I could gather most part of my father's rents, and add much to the completing of the troops. In this place where we are, I cannot see that we can subsist more than a month. If the Governor hath an ordinance to be Major General and that the Parliament will send him money, then I think my father's regiment and yours may go forward, but not otherwise.

The Same to the Same, at Westminster.

1644, December 3—Since I wrote I mustered your troop and found but thirty-six horse. Captain Brayne has now left and there is no officer but the quartermaster. Captain Wallinger has lost all his men but twenty-five; Captain Clare has twenty; your major, seventy-two. Of your troop there are twenty without horses. Both you and I lost our colours at Monmouth. *Signet.*

The Assembly of Divines to the Lords and Commons.

1644, December 4—The humble advice of the Assembly of Divines concerning the solemnization of marriage. *See Journals of the House of Lords, same date, and Neal's History of the Puritans, App. VIII., p. lxxxiv.*

Sir Robert Harley.

1644, December 27—An account of moneys received. For copes, 464*l.* 16*s.* 2*d.* For plate of the College, 280*l.* 7*s.* 7*d.* For brass and tin, 142*l.* 4*s.* 3*d.*

The Assembly of Divines to the Sub-Committee of the Grand Committee of the House of Commons.

[1644?]—Additional advice concerning the constituting of a congregational, classical, provincial, and national eldership and the choosing of elders. *Copy.*

Brampton Bryan.

1643 and 1644—An estimate for the rebuilding of the church and houses in the town of Brampton Bryan which were burned when the King besieged Sir Robert Harley's Castle. The total amount is 3,216*l.* of which 1,200*l.* is for the church and 250*l.* for the parsonage. *Copy.*

A Cypher.

1644—The key to a cypher used for corresponding about military matters.

Francis Conway to his cousin [Colonel Edward Harley].

1644, —— 13 Hill Hall. I shall acknowledge myself for ever obliged to you if you will procure my father's consent in letting me have employment in some of the Parliamentary armies.

Major Robert Harley to his brother, Colonel Edward Harley, in Deans Yard.

[1644, December]—Since the taking of Monmouth the Committee do not acknowledge your troop or regiment to belong to this. The bearer can relate my care for your troop and regiment, though I have cashiered him for his plundering and cowardice.

Westminster Abbey, Whitehall, Greenwich, Canterbury, and Hampton Court.

1644, April 19—Receipt for 6*s*. by Thomas Gastaway from Sir Robert Harley for three days work in planing out some pictures at the Abbey.

1644, May 14—Receipt for 10*s*. by Peter Petley from Sir Robert Harley for taking down the high altar in Henry the Seventh's Chapel.

1644, May 23—Receipt for 7*l*. by John Rutland for 241 feet of new white glass set up in the East window of the King's Chapel at Whitehall.

1644, May 25—Bill from Robert Reynolds, carman, and others for carrying copes from Whitehall to Westminster.

1644, May—Bills and receipt for 1*l*. 8*s*. by Thomas Stevens and others for taking down the angels in the Abbey and cleansing out pictures, and for cutting out a crucifix at the North end of the Abbey and the pictures at the conduit leading to the new palace, and for taking down the cross at Whitehall, and for colouring the boards from which the carpenter had planed off the pictures.

1644, June 15—Receipt by Thomas Stevens of 1*l*. 19*s*. from Sir Robert Harley for cutting down the stem of the cross over the chapel at Whitehall, and working and setting up a lion with a shield having his Majesty's arms cut in it.

1644, July 6—Receipt by Adam Browne from Sir Robert Harley of 4*l*. 10*s*. for delivering at the chapel of Whitehall a communion table similar to the one at the Abbey.

1644, July 19—Receipt by Thomas Stevens of 1*l*. 17*s*. 6*d*. from Sir Robert Harley for work done in the chapel of Whitehall about defacing pictures and plastering the walls.

1644, September 7—Receipt by Thomas Gastaway from Sir Robert Harley of 1*l*. 14*s*. for taking down the organ at Whitehall.

1644, September 30—Receipt by Adam Browne from Sir Robert Harley of 2*l*. 19*s*. for work done in the Abbey, namely, cutting down the pictures over the records; taking down part of the organ loft; taking down three pictures in Queen Elizabeth's chapel and carrying them to Sir Robert Harley's house; taking down a picture in the Duke of Richmond's chapel of God the Father with Christ in his bosom.

1644, September 30—Bill for 1*l*. 5*s*. due to Jane Bagley for cutting the pearls off the mitre and copes, and for work done about the copes.

1644, November 26—Receipt by Thomas Gastaway of 2*l.* 6*s.* from Sir Robert Harley for taking down the organ and organ case at Greenwich, and for making a scaffold to cut out the Resurrection where the Kings and Queens stand in the Abbey at Westminster, and for planing out seven pictures.

1644, November 30—Receipt by John Rutland for 4*l.* from Sir Robert Harley for 140 feet of new glass for the King's chapel at Greenwich.

1644 [–5], January 4—Receipt by John Rutland and Robert Hickes of 3*l.* 5*s.* from Sir Robert Harley for 131 feet of new glass for glazing windows in Saint Margaret's church Westminster.

1644[–5], January 23—Memorandum in Sir Robert Harley's handwriting of the receipt of 19*l.* from Mr. Henry Cogan for the pearls which came off the mitre found in Saint Paul's Church.

1644[–5], February 14—Receipt by Thomas Pullyen of 6*l.* 6*s.* from Sir Robert Harley for making a brick wall at the King's Chapel, Greenwich, where the organ stood.

1644[–5], March 1—Receipt by Robert Hickes and John Rutland of 7*l.* from Sir Robert Harley for 284 feet of new white glass and glazing the east window of [Saint] Margaret's Church.

1645, April 17—Receipt by Thomas Stevens of 2*l.* 12*s.* 8*d.* from Sir Robert Harley for taking down the posts at Westminster Abbey and Saint Margarets.

1645, May 7—Receipt by John Rutland of 5*l.* from Sir Robert Harley for 202 feet of new glass for the south side of [Saint] Margaret's Church.

1645, May 13—Receipt by Thomas Stevens of 26*s.* from Sir Robert Harley for defacing pictures on the North side of the Abbey.

1645, May 13—Receipt by Thomas Gastaway of 3*l.* 3*s.* from Sir Robert Harley for work done on the outside of the North side of Westminster, including the hire of scaffolding for taking down statues of the Virgin Mary and other saints.

1645, June 14—Receipt by Richard Culmer of £8 11*s.* 2*d.* from Sir Robert Harley, being the proceeds of the burning of the embroidery called The Glory, belonging to the high altar of Canterbury Cathedral, delivered to Sir Robert Harley by the appointment of Mr. John Lade, Mayor of Canterbury.

1645, September 11—Receipt by John Rutland of 5*l.* from Sir Robert Harley for glazing work in Henry the Seventh's Chapel.

1645, October 18—Receipt by John Rutland of 5*l.* from Sir Robert Harley for work done in Henry the Seventh's Chapel.

1645, December 16—Receipt by John Rutland of 9*l.* 16*s.* from Sir Robert Harley for pulling down and glazing with new glass the East window at Hampton Court Chapel.

1645[–6], January 12—Receipt by John Rutland of 1*l.* 14*s.* from Sir Robert Harley for "spending" the old glass in the windows at [Saint] Margaret's Westminster and for forty feet of new glass [in a window] next to the "Redd doore" in the Abbey.

[1645]–6, January 25—Receipt by Thomas Gastaway of 10*l.* from Sir Robert Harley for work done at Hampton Court, including pulling down the organ and case.

1645, June 9—Receipt by John Rutland of 10*l.* from Sir Robert Harley towards glazing Henry the Seventh's Chapel with white glass.

1645, June 10—Receipt by Robert Hicks of 4*l.* from Sir Robert Harley for new glass in Saint Margaret's church, including thirty-five feet of new glass on the north side of the chancel "where the holy

lames were"; forty feet of new glass in the window at the east end of the gallery, "where the Virgin Mary was" and sixty-four feet of new glass in the window by the gallery stairs.

1645, July 12—Receipt by Thomas Stevens of 2*l.* 9*s.* from Sir Robert Harley for altering the altar steps in Westminster Abbey.

1645, July 15—Receipt by John Rutland of 16*l.* from Sir Robert Harley towards glazing Henry the Seventh's chapel.

1645, August 8—Receipt by John Rutland of 15*l.* from Sir Robert Harley towards glazing work done in Henry the Seventh's Chapel. The account includes 498 feet of glass in the West window and 360 feet in the three east windows.

The Assembly of Divines.

[1645, January 3]—A Directory for public prayers, Reading the Scriptures, Singing of Psalms, Preaching the Word, Administration of the Sacraments, and other parts of the public worship of God. *Copy. Twenty-eight pages. See Neal's History of the Puritans, Appendix VIII.*

Major Robert Harley to his brother, Colonel Edward Harley.

1644[-5], January—I am sorry I can present you with no better news than the loss of divers of your troop who were taken at Martley in Herefordshire by the enemy; but their exchange, I hope, will not be long. I was better able to bear the loss as it came soon after a good prize which I took in Worcestershire, where we took Captain Massey's whole troop, both officers and soldiers.

I much rejoice to hear of you soon coming here, which will very much advantage your regiment. The way between Warwick and Gloucester is hazardous, but you may have a strong convoy which will securely conduct you through. *Signet.*

Denzil Holles, Sir Henry Vane and others [Commissioners from the House of Commons] to William Lenthall, Speaker of the House of Commons.

1644[-5], January 30th. Uxbridge—*See similar letter from the Commissioners of both Houses to the Speaker of the House of Lords. Copy. Printed in the House of Lords Journals, February* 1, 1644–5.

The Same to the Same.

1644[-5], February 2. Uxbridge—*See similar letter from the Commissioners of both Houses printed in the House of Lords Journals, February* 3, 1644–5. *Copy.*

Wm. Throckmorton to his kinsman [Edward Harley].

1644[-5], February 8. Gloucester—"I have writt but one letter unto you, since my great misfortune in the loss of Monmouth; and that was only to give you an account of that unhappy accident. I have since forborne to write unto you because your brother did assure me that you would be in these parts suddenly, which I have ever since expected. I have encountered with many aspersions, and callumnyes since I saw you, which has bin cast upon me, principally by that unworthy man Mr. Bromwitch, and his adherents, and they doe daily increase upon me, which has put me upon a resolution of desertinge this brigade, unless you

shall lay your commands upon me for the contrary. I have bin contented hitherto to continue here merely to doe you service; for my company beinge the begininge of your regiment, as the only company that is yett raysed therein, I have bin loth to leave it, because if I goe from it, I am sure it will imeadiatly disperse, and come to nothinge, and therefore I have bin contented to shift with it from one bie garrison unto another, and to continue with them myself hitherto; but truly I am now soe weary of it, that I am not able to undergoe it any longer, and I doe very much lessen myself in it. Imeadiatly upon my account given in to the counsell of warr here, concerninge the loss of Monmouth, the governour was pleased to vindicate and honour me soe much as to give me the comand of the whole forrest division, of all the garrisons, horse and foote, conteyned therein, and my company to be put in garrison into Mr. Hall's house at Highmeadow, in the forrest, within three mile of Monmouth; but upon my repaire into the comittee by the governour's order for an assignation for the maintenance of the company and garrison, my cosen Kerle was pleased to express—with much passion—soe great a suspition of my fidellity that I thought it convenient to give up my charge into the governour againe, untill I have fully cleared my self of all jealousies, which are cast upon me meerly by the procurement of Mr. Bromwitch. Howsoever I marched into the house with my company and have bin driven to remaine with them constantly myself, to keepe them from mutininge and runninge away; for I could not procure any provision from the comittee for them soe that if we had not found great plenty of provision at my cosen Hall's—which we were compelled to make use of—we had bin driven to desert the garrison longe since. At length their provision beinge quite exhausted I prevailed with the governour to draw of my company into a small garrison by Strowd, and my Lord Stamford's company to march from thence into Highmeadow; into whom the comittee has bin pleased to grant very large assignations for their maintenance there; but for my company, although when I came thence, there was three weekes pay due unto them, and that it was very unlikely that I should get them to march out of the countrey, without their pay, they beinge most raysed within two or three miles of that garrison, all which I informed them of, yet could I not procure one farthinge for them; by which, as allsoe by many other circumstances—which I will not stand to relate now—I plainely perceive that the comittee—whither for your sake, or mine, or both, I know not—seekes by all meanes to obstruct the raisinge of your regement and they endeavour as much as may be to tire me out, that I might bee enforced to leave the imployment here, which has made me to struggle the more with them, for the upholdinge of my company. I have with much adoe gotten it into the new garrison where I am upon the same termes with the comittee as before, soe that I feare I shall not be able to keepe my men from runinge away, but I will doe what lyes in me to prevent it untill I heare from you, which I desire may be very speedely. Sir, my officers and myself are in very great want here, for I have disburst all my owne money upon my souldiers soe that unless you will be pleased to supply us speedely, I know not what will become of us. Captain Wallinger was taken prisoner the last weeke in the forrest but none of his men; he was put in an out garrison, in the forrest, with some comanded men, havinge not above a dozen of his owne. Captain Clare is in a house in Herefordshire with some comanded men likewise, and some few that he has raysed. Captain Archbold is made Major of Gloster, but has raysed noe men. Sir, if you intend to go on with your regement, it is high time to be stirringe in it."

MAJOR ROBERT HARLEY to his brother, COLONEL EDWARD HARLEY.

1644[–5], February 13. Gloucester—Your letter for a convoy from Warwick gave me such assurance of a speedy meeting that I was confident a speedy satisfaction would be given to your officers and soldiers, so that with their fullness they would have gone forwards with their work, whereas now I see and hear nothing but discontent and complaints, and not without cause, for the Committee not believing that you will come down, exceedingly slight and neglect your major's company. If I hear not from you by the 25th or 26th of this month I shall begin my journey to you. The bearer will tell you how wonderfully I was preserved from the enemy at Lydney.

I hear there is 1,000*l.* come down to the Committee. Unless there be an order from Parliament, neither your horse nor foot will get any of it. *Signet.*

W. ASHHURST to SIR ROBERT HARLEY.

1644[–5], February 21—Asking him to give employment at the Tower of London as a labourer in the Mint to a former servant of his called James Ogden.

COLONEL EDWARD MASSEY to COLONEL EDWARD HARLEY.

1644[–45], February 23. Gloucester.—"I intend not in these to speake my obligations unto you though I shall never seace to acknowledge them. My hopes of seeinge your returne to Gloucester makes me doubt of these findeing yow att London. If they doe, they assure yow that we much desire yow. Your brother Robin, I am affrayd, will have an ague. Your presence will agayne hellp much to the recruite of your regiments. We have lost Collonell Stephens and Collonell Hopton, concerning both whom my brother Robin will give yow an account. Collonell Stephens as high sherriff may doe anythinge, and as collonell, is but subservant to Thomas Stevens, vice-comes, and not att all bound to give me an accoumpte. Sir, I have understoode that there is mischiefe haching against mee, and the same promoting here also. If, Sir, anythinge worth your notice come to your hand I shall presume upon your love till that you will please to comunicate the same to my brother Robin. Yesterday wee fell upon the enemy in the forrest att Luncoate, upon the side of Wy, where Sir John Winter joyned with the Monmouth force to have fortefyd. Our men from our garrisons ther, both horse and foote, by the assistance of the cuntry fell upon them, slew Collonell Gam and Leiftenant Collonell Winter, a serjeant major, with others to the nomber of sixty or seventy, and like nomber are reported to be drowned in striveing to gett and save themselves in the frigate which lay there. Sir John Wintour himselfe saved himselfe by swimming, and Sir Richard Poore, governour of Berckley Castle reported to be slayne in endeavouring to swym. Ther were one hundred and sixty horse taken in all by our souldiers, and the cuntry men and two leiftenant collonells, a major, three or four captains with other officers and souldiers, to the nomber of neare one hundred and twenty taken prisoners. Thus hath God beene good unto us, in giveing us some victorys by such as wilbe comanded by me."

HEREFORDSHIRE.

1644[–5], March.—A list of Herefordshire men in London. *Two lists; one undated but similar to the other.*

Colonel Edward Massey to Colonel Edward Harley.

1644[–5], March 17—Major Harley can relate to you our condition here, and how much favour you or yours have found from the Committee. Ours must be all transplanted or cut off. Lieutenant Colonel Kyrle may be grafted in, for on him and Colonel Stephens as men of the Parliament fitting trust, do the eyes of old choleric Mr. Kyrle and high strained Mr. Sheppard exceedingly look. And to speak what I think, they have "out studdyed" themselves so much in the things and ordinances of Parliament that they have quite cast them aside and now have found a rule of their own by which they resolved to walk. And Mr. Pury and Mr. Bromwich their guides at a distance, have new tricks to show to the world, though I know that neither the Parliament nor any of their true hearty wishers regard their hocus pocus jugglings. Mr. Kyrle and Sheppard have refused to come and sit at the C[ommittee] these two or three days. Mr. Bromwich has doubtless "principled" them, and hope to erect some new structure of their own fancy. Since they have brought the business of this country into chaos by their particular ways, I see I must "wrassle with a multitude of Janus breede." But I assure you and all that love the Parliament that my way, my end, and my aim shall be the same.

Colonel Edward Massey to Sir Robert Harley and the rest of the Committee of Parliament for Gloucester, at Westminster.

1644[–5], March 22. Gloucester—I wrote to you some few days since desiring that some considerable force might be sent this way. I therein desired nothing but was for the public service nor shall I ever endeavour anything else. If I had had a considerable strength I might have given the Parliament a good account of them. Herefordshire and part of Worcestershire have risen in arms and pretend to save themselves from contributing either to King or Parliament. A force of 15,000 or 16,000 countrymen have beaten the Governor of Hereford into his garrison and lie before the city to keep him in. Therefore I marched to Ledbury and sent unto them, but as yet they will not acknowledge the Parliament. I have written to the Committee of both kingdoms, and I entreat you to "further" them to take the matter into their serious consideration. If we lay hold o f the opportunity it may much forward the Parliament's designs, if not, it may much prejudice their proceedings. I pray forget us not for recruits, both of horse and arms. *Signet.*

The Ministers of London.

1645, May 30—The advice of the Ministers of London, assembled at Sion College, to the House of Commons concerning the constitution of a congregational, classical and provincial eldership, and for the choosing of elders. *Copy.*

The Assembly of Divines.

Same date.—Their advice on the same subject. *Copy.*

John Glynn and others to Jeremiah Elborough, Minister of God's word to the English Company at Hamburgh.

[1645, June]—Requesting him to administer the national covenant to them. *Copy.*

JOHN AVERY, Deputy to [JEREMIAH] ELBOROUGH.

1645, June 19. Hamburgh—Charging him not to administer the covenant either publicly or privately to any person whatsoever. *Signed.*

The COMMITTEE of both Kingdoms to the COMMITTEE OF Gloucester.

1645, June 20. Derby House—Asking them to assist in the recruiting of Colonel Harley's regiment. *Copy.*

JEREMIAH ELBOROUGH to SIR ROBERT HARLEY.

1645, June 20. Hamburgh—Concerning the dispute at Hamburgh relative to the national covenant.

The SAME to the SAME, in London.

1645, June 21. Hamburgh.—On the same subject.

COLONEL EDWARD HARLEY and JAMES KYRLE to THOMAS CARELESS.

1645, July 4. Gloucester—Authority to raise a hundred foot soldiers for the service of the King and Parliament and the defence of the county of Hereford. *Signed.*

THE MINT.

1645, July 8—Regulations for working, and for checking the amount of money coined. *Copy.*

THE PARLIAMENT.

[1645, July 23–25.]—Directions for the election of Elders of the Church. *See Journals of the House of Commons, same dates. Copy.*

MAJOR ROBERT HARLEY to his brother [COLONEL EDWARD HARLEY].

1645, July 26. Bridgwater—Since my last to you it has pleased God to give us Bridgwater and with little bloodshed. Colonel Massey has the command of the town and castle, and of three regiments of foot and four of horse besides his dragooners, which are to march eastward towards Bath and Bristol. The general with his army marches into Cornwall but as yet he lies near Crewkherne and marches no further till his ammunition comes. In the meantime he intends to take Chidcock (Chidwick) House near Lyme. If we march to Bath I hope I shall see you. Colonel Massey desires you to write to him what news you have in your parts.

VISCOUNT CONWAY and KILULTA to his nephew, COLONEL HARLEY, at Gloucester.

1645, August 4. Warwick—I am here for some occasions of my own. I should have been glad to see you, but the way is far. If I go to Evesham I will send to you. I should be glad to know whether by the joining of the forces at Gloucester with those that are here, something might not be done against Worcester. Let me know what you hear from the army of Sir Thomas Fairfax. *Signet.*

The Committee for Hereford.

1645, August 11. Gloucester—Appointment of John Herringe of Holmer, Thomas Seaborne of "the Lloyds," and Miles Hill of Weobley to be treasurers of the Committee. *Signed by Edward Harley, James Kyrle, and Henry Jones.*

Viscount Conway and Kilulta to his nephew, Colonel Edward Harley.

1645, August 12. Warwick—I am returning to London in a day or two. When I wrote I thought you were at Gloucester, and I was sorry that when the messenger I sent was told you were in Herefordshire that he came not back without giving you the trouble of my letter.

I shall be glad to hear that Hereford is taken, and gladder that the Scots army were before Worcester. I hear that forces are going from London to Newark, so that there will be nine or ten thousand to attend that place; and that four or five thousand are going from London to Colonel Brown to be about Oxford. *Signet.*

Anne Price to Colonel Harley.

1645, August 25. Wistaston — A letter of thanks for kindness received. *Signet.*

Thomas Harley to his brother, Colonel Edward Harley.

1645, October 8. Westminster—My father and my sisters are well except my sister Brill, who has the measles, but she is now mending.

The latest news is that Sandal Castle in Yorkshire is taken. The Scots are to have 30,000*l.* if they go before Newark, where it is now reported the King is, gathering what strength he can to try another vengeance.

[Colonel] E. H[arley] to Major Archbold.

1645, November 3. Rockbeare.—"I am very glad you are in a condition to offend the enemy though I hear you have lately lost the mill and haystack, which I fear will be a great inconvenience to you. I should not have omitted anything that lay in my power to supply you with, though the command of Canon-Froome had beene disposed to another, but since the Parliament is pleased to continue the government of it to mee, I must looke upon it with my best care. Your maintenance I thinke cannot be better provided for then by the way assigned by the committee to Captain Heming and Mr. Hill, to whom I have written to be carefull of the business. The number to be kept, I would have two hundred foote in two companyes, your owne and Captain Greene's, and of these I am sure you may arme fifty with firelockes. The horse, untill more troopes come into you, should be recruyted to eighty in my troope under Captain Peirse. Horses, I believe, will be had in the countrey, and armes and saddles I will endevour to procure. The next care must be for amunition, and you will now neede a greater proportion of this then before, for I have gayned an order from the Generall, for two pieces of canon for you from Bristoll, which I pray you make hast to send for to Gloucester, and carry them not thence without a good convoy. I thinke you may have amunition best from Bristoll, and Mr. Hill and Captain Heming I hope will take care to pay for it. Then you must so fortifie the place that it may be tenable against a considerable enemy, which a little paynes will quickly effect,

and to direct you in this, I pray you send for Mr. Colt, the ingineer. The first worke must be in mending the flanckes, and heightning the rampart with a proportionable thickness, and then to make another ditch without the palisadoes, but all this will be to no purpose unless you provide against an enemy within your selves by good store of victualls. I can only say this in generall, because I know not the particulars of your condition, which I pray you fayle not to let mee know upon all occassions, and as often as you can give my father an account by letter of your state that so he may acquaint the committee of both kingdomes, and that what you want and canot be supplyed in the countrey, may be provided elsewhere."

JOHN BENFIELD to SIR ROBERT HARLEY, at his house in the Palace at Westminster.

1645, November 7, Aldgate—Sending the present of a doe. *Signet.*

MAJOR RICHARD HOPTON to SIR ROBERT HARLEY.

1645, November 14—Proposals made by Major Richard Hopton. "First that the said Major Hopton will, att his owne charge, raise and arme a companie of foote of one hundred at least, to serve in the regiment of Collonell Edward Harley, which is nowe ymployed at the garrison at Cannon Froome, before the first of February next.

That the said Major Hopton will bringe into the garrison of Cannon Froome, two hundred horse ymediatlie to serve under the said Collonell Harley in his regiment of horse.

That the said Major Hopton doth and will engage himselfe to raise those two hundred horse to three hundred, before the first of March next, and to serve under the said Collonell Harley in his regiment of horse, as aforesaid.

In consideracion whereof, the said Major Hopton doth desire :—

First.—That the said Sir Robert Harley shall procure his sonne, Collonell Harley, and under his hand to make him the said Major Hopton his deputie governor of the garrison of Cannon Froome, revocable att the will and pleasure of the said Collonell Harley and noe otherwise.

2.—That the said Sir Robert Harley shall furthwith wright his letter by the said Major Hopton to his sonne, Collonell Harley, to procure from him the deputation of the government of the said garrison, as aforesaid.

3.—That the said Sir Robert Harley or his said sonne shall forthwith procure a commission for the said Major Hopton to serve with his companie of foote—as in the first proposicion undertaken by the said Major to bee raysed—in his regiment of foote as the next superior officer under himselfe, the said Major to bee att the charge of his commission.

4.—That the said Sir Robert Harley or his sonne shall furthwith procure commissions for these severall officers, vizt. a commission for the said Major Hopton to serve with his troope under Collonell Harley as Major to his regiment of horse: a commission for Tymothy Plant to serve as a captaine under Collonell Harley in his regiment of horse: and other severall commissions—vizt.—for Giles Hickes, — Monckton, — Smith and William Carles to serve as captaines with theire severall troopes under Collonell Harley in

his said regiment of horse. And that the said Major and the severall captaines aforesaid shalbe at the charge for their severall commissions, boath for themselves and theire under officers.

and lastlie.—That the said Sir Robert Harley bee pleased to give a formall answere to the said Major Hopton concerninge the premisses, upon Monday next or before. And if the said Sir Robert shall not thincke itt convenient to assent unto the aforesaid proposicions, that then the said Major Hopton may seeke his further ymployment elsewhere, with the full and cheerfull consent and good will of the said Sir Robert Harley."

BRILLIANA HARLEY to her brother, COLONEL EDWARD HARLEY.

1645, November 24. Westminster—Your letter was "wellcomly" received by my Lady W., and my Lady C. thought she might have had one as well. My cousin Vere went last week from London to Kirby, where she will receive your letter. *Signet.*

COLONEL JOHN BIRCH to SIR ROBERT HARLEY.

1645, December 30. Hereford—Asking him to use his influence with Sir William Brereton to send part of his troops to help to reduce Ludlow. *Signed. Signet.*

COLONEL JOHN BIRCH to COLONEL EDWARD HARLEY.

1645, December 30. Hereford—I am glad to hear you intend to come down here. A company of your foot are here until my own come up, and your horse under Captains Pearce and Hill are also hereabouts. *Signed. Signet.*

JOHN BUTLER to COLONEL EDWARD HARLEY, in Dean's Yard.

1645[-6], January 3. Tiverton—There was an alarm last Sabbath. The enemy had drawn their forces to Ocknighton, and one brigade of their horse advanced to Bow. Upon that it was reported that they intended to fall upon Crediton, in which are three regiments of foot, Colonel Waller's, Welden's and Herbert's. They not being able to keep the town against Greenwell, Hopton, and the Exeter forces, our whole army moved towards Crediton; your regiment marched into the town on Sabbath night. We had not any house but the church, where we continued till Tuesday when we were quartered at Shobrooch. The next day we returned to our old quarters. *Signet.*

COLONEL JOHN BIRCH to SIR ROBERT HARLEY.

1645[-6], January 12. Hereford—I find this town very much disaffected, so that if the enemy were "prevalent" they would be plotting. I think the castle ought to be fortified, which would then be a very strong place. When that were done I should be able to draw out part of the garrison and march to Ludlow or Worcester and rescue that part of the country. *Signed. Signet.*

ELIZABETH JONES and THOMAS PRICHARD.

1645[-6], February 14. Hereford—Order made by the Governor of the City and County of Hereford for the settlement of disputes between them concerning land in the parish of Dorstone. *Copy.*

THOMAS BURGH to COLONEL EDWARD HARLEY.

1645[-6], February 16. The Mint—Asking him to give Captain Gregson assistance towards serving the State in Herefordshire. *Signet.*

COLONEL JOHN BIRCH to SIR ROBERT HARLEY.

1645[-6], February 25. Hereford—It troubles me that there should be any misunderstanding between us. I am confident you have no reason to think ill of me. *Signed.*

The COMMITTEE of HEREFORD to SIR ROBERT HARLEY, at Westminster.

1645[-6], March 5. Hereford—We enclose a letter to the House by which you may perceive an apprehension of the state of this garrison, to which we add the good correspondence we have with the governor, of whose care frugality and wisdom we need not give a better account than his own actions. *Five Signatures.*

The COMMITTEE of HEREFORD to SIR ROBERT HARLEY, THOMAS PARRY and the rest of the Committee for Gloucester and Hereford.

1645[-6], March 9. Hereford—Asking for assistance in their application to the House for clothes for the soldiers. *Five Signatures.*

The ASSEMBLY OF DIVINES to the HOUSE OF COMMONS.

1645[-6], March 22—Petition for the Elderships to be enabled to keep back scandalous persons from receiving the Sacraments. *Copy. See Journals of the House of Commons, April* 21 1645-6.

COLLEGE OF WESTMINSTER.

1646, April 7. Dean's House—Order by the Committee of Lords and Commons for the College of Westminster that the next house at the disposal of the Committee shall be disposed to Sir Robert Harley. *Eight Signatures.*

The HOUSE OF COMMONS.

1646, April 15.—*See Commons Journals. Same date.*

HEREFORD.

1646, April 15—An order of the Committee of the House of Commons for plundered Ministers, appointing Timothy Woodroffe, Thomas Froysell and Benjamin Baxter to preach in the Cathedral Church at Hereford, and Samuel Smith to preach in one of the parish churches. *See Journals of the House of Lords, March* 28, 1646.

SERGEANT JOHN WYLDE to the COMMITTEE at HEREFORD.

1646, April 21. Westminster—I have received your letter in which you say that there are divers persons employed in receiving the church rents, who on account of their bad services you do not wish to continue in the employment.

VISCOUNT CONWAY and KILULTA to his nephew [COLONEL EDMUND HARLEY].

1646, May 18. London—I am raising a regiment to go into France and I am sending everywhere to seek men. It is likely that upon the yielding of Oxford there may be men to be had. If you can procure me any men in Hereford or Gloucester, I pray you do it, if there be any living in the country, who have served against the Parliament, and all those that are disaffected. If the country were rid of them, I think it would be good for the peace of the Kingdom.

COLONEL JOHN BIRCH to WILLIAM SCUDAMORE, at Bellingham.

1646, June 4. Goodrich—Concerning a claim for some money. *Copy.*

The COMMITTEE of HEREFORD to SIR ROBERT HARLEY.

1646, June 6. Hereford—Concerning a complaint raised against them for levying a tax on Lord Sandys' property.

G. PRIMROSE to SIR ROBERT HARLEY, at his house behind Westminster Abbey.

1646, June 9. Hereford—Thanking him for getting him an appointment as preacher. *Signet.*

VISCOUNT CONWAY and KILULTA to his nephew [COLONEL EDMUND HARLEY].

1646, June 12. London—If I should not be with your army when Oxford opens its gates, I hope you will use your uttermost endeavours to procure men for me. You may offer conditions to one man to be Colonel and to others to be captains, every captain to have 161*l.* 8*s.* to transport a hundred men to Calais.

ENGLAND and SCOTLAND.

1646, June 12—Ordinance testifying that though the two countries have sent joint propositions of peace to the King yet that it was not their intention that any construction should be made thereupon as if either kingdom had any interest in the legislative power of each other. *Copy.*

VISCOUNT CONWAY and KILULTA to his nephew [COLONEL EDWARD HARLEY].

1646, June 13. London—I hear that Oxford will be speedily yielded and so send Captain Nevison to you and pray you give him what assistance you can. *Signed.*

The Same to [the Same].

1646, June 21. Islip—I came here last night and got lodging by the help of Lord Lovelace. I will be with the General this afternoon at Water Eaton and I pray you meet me there. I send you a letter from the porter to Sir George Lisle. *Signet.*

Leominster.

1646, July 1—Order by the Committee for plundered divines to increase the stipends of the ministers of the churches in Leominster out of the tithes sequestrated from Viscount Scudamore and Wallop Brabazon, and for Sir Robert Harley to nominate to the Committee orthodox and godly divines to officiate in such churches.

The Committee of [both Kingdoms] to Colonel Birch.

1646, July 3. Derby House—Directing him to abstain from levying money in Herefordshire, except in such copy as was settled by ordinance of Parliament. *Copy.*

Cecilia Coningsby to her cousin, Colonel Harley.

1646, July 23. Hampton Court—"My misfortunes are so great as to be interested in this busines so farr as to bewaile my child's unhappines. Howsoever I should be glad to do you any curtesie in my power, but I have so small power over my tennants I cannot command my dues." *Signet.*

George, Bishop of Hereford to Colonel Harley, at Hereford.

1646, July 29. "Queismor"—I have heard of your favour in moving to the Committee of my state. It is a manifest declaration of the continuance of the favour of that noble family to which I have ever been bounden. *Signed. Signet.*

Brilliana Harley to her brother, Colonel Edward Harley.

1646, August 4. Hartingfordbury—I am very glad to hear you are so well. We hope to see London the week. I hear you are become a justice and so dare no longer trouble you.

General Edward Massey to Colonel Edward Harley.

1646, August 8. London—We are moving for writs for several counties to be sent down for election. I hope Hereford will be obtained amongst the rest. What friends I have in both Houses have already understood my desires concerning you for the Shire and your brother for Hereford town. Upon Tuesday next we are likely to have a great day in both Houses upon the return of the Commissioners from Newcastle. The J.P. move strongly to enforce a further quarrel, but the more faithful to the Kingdom hope still the contrary. We want but a small addition of more honest and diligent men in the House to set things straight. *Signet.*

Sir Sampson Eure to his kinsman, Colonel Harley, at Hereford.

1646, August 18. Gateley Park—On business. *Signet.*

THOMAS FROYSELL to SIR ROBERT HARLEY.

1646, September 1. Peckham—Some of my parish told me they had been with you about my leaving them to go to Hereford, and informed me that you resolved to put it to four Divines of the Assembly. I humbly approve your motion, but my desire is that you would hasten it. If you would speak to the four divines you mean to consult with and would send for Mr. Moline and Mr. Spire of New Fish Street Hill, I would also come and give full satisfaction of my willingness to leave London. *Signet.*

The COMMITTEE OF HEREFORDSHIRE to WILLIAM LENTHALL, Speaker of the House of Commons.

1646, September 21. Hereford—Concerning the reduction and disbanding of the forces in that county. *Copy.*

CECILIA CONINGSBY to her kinsman, COLONEL HARLEY.

1646, September 22. Hampton Court—Enclosing a letter from Sir William Waller. *Signet.*

EDWARD HARLEY to WILLIAM LENTHALL [the Speaker of the House of Commons].

1646, September 22. Hereford—We have thought fit to let you know that our authority here is contemned and slighted by reason of some "incendiaries and fomenters of evill" and we have pitched upon one who has often injured us to recommend him to your censure. His name is Milward, a captain in Colonel Birch's regiment. Our desire is, that if the charge herein enclosed, deserve it, that his punishment may be such as will deter others from a like practice. *Signed.*

CAPTAIN THOMAS MILLWARD.

No date—About February last Captain Millward used speeches tending to the prejudice of the Committee with the soldiery, saying that they would not look upon the soldiery and that he would endeavour to be a committee man to examine their actions. The same night these speeches were used there was a mutiny in the garrison, the soldiers crying out "money money." Insomuch that the enemy being abroad in the county with a strong power and the city disaffected, it was feared that there would be treachery and the Committee were afraid of being surprised in their quarters. Mr. Richard Cocks, who married Captain Millward's wife's sister, being in the commission of the peace was voted for delinquency by this Committee. At the last gaol delivery Captain Millward enquired by what means his brother Cocks was voted a delinquent and omitted to be called as a Justice at the Bench, and Captain Millward said to Ambrose Elton, brother to Mr. Cocks' wife, that he hoped the High Sheriff would not see his brother trampled on. When the Judge, Serjeant Wilde, desired to know what charges of delinquency were brought against Mr. Cocks, some of the members of this Committee attended him herein. Whereupon Captain Millward being present used very opprobrious speeches against the Committee at Hereford affirming that Mr. Corks was voted a delinquent without any just ground. *Enclosed in the preceding letter.*

NATHANIEL WRIGHT to COLONEL EDWARD HARLEY, at Hereford.

1646, September 28. Salop.—Mr. Benghy presents his service to you. He has a good benefice in this country but knows not how fast he sits in it. In case he be removed, he entreats you to think of him in Herefordshire. *Signet.*

AMBROSE ELTON, EDWARD HARLEY, and others to SIR ROBERT HARLEY and WALTER KYRLE.

1646, October 6. Hereford—Enclosing a petition from the Grand Inquest to be presented to the House of Commons.

The GRAND INQUEST [for Herefordshire] to the JUSTICES of the PEACE FOR HEREFORDSHIRE.

1646, October 6. Hereford—Requesting them to join in a petition to the House of Commons for the reduction of the number of soldiers maintained by the county, and that no writs for the election of members for the county be issued until the soldiers be renewed. *Enclosed in the preceding letter.*

The GRAND INQUEST for Herefordshire to the HOUSE OF COMMONS.

1646, October 6. Hereford—Petitioning (1) that ministers might be appointed for such places as wanted them, and that schools of learning might be set up (2) that the number of soldiers maintained by the county might be reduced (3) that respect might be had for the gentry and others who had been ruined by these miserable times, "that "the cankerworme of usury may not be fully exacted" upon them. (4) that no writs be issued for the election of new members for the county until the soldiers be removed. *Enclosed in the same letter as the preceding.*

AMBROSE ELTON to his kinsman, COLONEL EDWARD HARLEY, at Hereford.

1646, October 10. Hasle.—I have been troubled by Sir Richard Hopton and the Governor to remove the county court to Hereford. I will let you hear as soon as the writs come to my hands. My wife presents her service to you. *Signet.*

B. LECHMERE to the COMMITTEE OF PARLIAMENT FOR THE COUNTY OF HEREFORD.

1646, Oct. 19, Worcester—"I received the letter you did mee the honour to send mee, and for our proceedings with the malignant Worcester maior, it may bee were not regular, I am sure wee were not nice, wee allwaies observing our rule with such kind of people to handle them without mittins. Within a day or two after wee entered this garrison, having some knowledge of his disaffection, hee himself by some malapert answers to us when wee lay before the towne, having sufficiently signified his inclination—wee seised his sword, maces and other signalles of maioralty, and him wee confined to his owne house, till understanding a confluence of disaffected persons thither, wee committed him close prisoner to the castle. After some humble petitions to us and the mediation of the governour who seemed unsatisfied with our

proceedings—as tending in his judgment to the violation of the articles hee granted this towne upon theyr surrender—wee indulged the maior a returne to his house againe, where hee remained under a confinement till hee tooke the negative oath and the covenant, but his maioralty hee never resumed, the city enduring a long interregnum till the swearing of the present honest maior, Mr. Elvins. You certainely have a plaine way before you, your—if more severe—proceedings being not capable of any constructive violation of articles, and having allready voted him a delinquent, which puts him in an incapacity of any office of magistracy, or other trust in church or commonwealth. Your letter found mee with one foot in the stirrup for a dirty London-journey, soe that I can onely doe your commands in making a bare relation of our proceedings."

William Lenthall, Speaker of the House of Commons, to Edmund Cogan, Peter Fenton, and Leonard Collard, Messengers.

1646, November 8—Warrant for the apprehension of coiners in Lancashire. *Copy.*

Ambrose Elton to his cousin, Colonel Harley, at Hereford.

1646, November 12—I shall meet you at Leominster on Friday. "Had I bolted from Tudington to Malvan Links, which truly I did some part of the way with much difficulty, I was resolved to serve you."

Edward Jones to Colonel Edward Harley, at Hereford.

1646, November 13. Fawnehope—This gentleman Mr. Lechmere has taken care to bring with him his tenants and friends to attend you, which, though they are not many, yet being all of that quality which will advance your design, he hopes you will accept them. He being himself a stranger to you has desired me to acquaint you hereof, "to which though no freeholder I take the boldnesse to adde my owne vote."

Leominster.

1646, November 14—Disbursements at Leominster on the occasion of the election of Colonel Edward Harley as member for Herefordshire. Total amount 402*l.* 12*s.* 7*d.* Includes 577 suppers and 2898 dinners.

Thomas Harley to his brother, Colonel Edward Harley.

1646, November 24. T[rinity] C[ollege] C[ambridge]—Congratulating him on his success. *Signet.*

Timothy Woodroffe to Sir Robert Harley.

1646, November 25. Hereford.—Asking him to obtain a third minister from Parliament for Hereford. *Signet.*

Colonel John Birch.

1646, December 2.—Accusations brought by Philip and Joan Witherston against Colonel Birch who had appointed the said Philip Witherston sutler to the garrison at Hereford. *Copy.*

WILLIAM PHILLIPS, Mayor of Hereford, and others to SIR ROBERT HARLEY, Steward of the City of Hereford, at his house in Tothill Street, London.

1646, December 21. Hereford—Asking him to assist in relieving the city of Hereford from the grievous pressure under which it was groaning. *Signet.*

THOMAS SEABORNE to COLONEL EDWARD HARLEY, at Westminster.

1646, December 28. Lugd[wardin]e—"About three weekes since I went purposely into Worcestershire to inquire the trueth concerninge the gentlewomen of Bockleton, and thus much I larned. That at the sige of Woster, one man of warr [Colonel Birch ?] came to Mrs. Fleet's house to Holloway—this Mrs. Fleete is granmother to the gentlewomen—and at night when he was going to bed, he most untimely intruds himself into the chamber of Mrs. Ann Cheatle and Miss Dorothie Acton, both sisters, the one a widdowe, the other a maide, and there did atempt the chastitie of them both, in offeringe to goe to bed to them both together, and prest it soe farr that they were constrayned to rayse the house for their securitie." *Signet.*

The COMMITTEE OF THE LORDS and COMMONS to ——

1646, December 29. Westminster—Order for the arrest of coiners in Lancashire. *Copy.*

COLONEL JOHN BIRCH to the COMMITTEE at HEREFORD.

1646[-7], January 1. Westminster—I have received information that there is some opposition in the county of Hereford to the quartering of the horse and foot under my command. I have given my officers orders what to do and have instructed them to send their orders to you.

I wish you to take into consideration the great sum of money owing to me and my company, amounting to 650*l.*, less 20*l.* paid to my wife. I beg you to pay the amount to my brother Major Samuel Birch.

I understand you are of opinion that I am preventing my horse and foot from disbanding, which is not the case. If you will draw up resolutions what is good for the country I will join with you, as thus (1) Whether there should be any garrison. (2) Whether if there be any, it should be only in the castle or in the city and castle. (3) What number both of foot and horse. (4) "What allowance and where" or anything else which may conduce to the welfare of the city and county. If you will make known your thoughts on these points, I will not only make them known to the House but will second them with my best reasons.

A great cry has come to me that you are sequestrating the whole town, which I suppose is not the case, the rather that by ordinance of Parliament last passed, all persons whose estates are not above 200*l.* are freely pardoned, and as to others, some of them supplied me for the public service.

I am informed you have drawn the Lieutenant-Colonel's company into the town. I desire to know the reasons thereof. If it is for the public good and the good of the rest of the regiment and the city, I will order my brother to continue them there, but I will not permit any under my command to receive any orders except from myself or my deputy, viz., Major Hopton for the horse, and my brother for the foot.

The Committee of Hereford to Sir Robert Harley.

1646[–7], January 3, Hereford—Enclosed is a copy of a letter from Colonel Birch to this Committee. If you knew not the gentleman you might take him for one whose thoughts were taken up for the good of this county. We recommend to you the proposals offered by his letter, but when you know the circumstances under which it was sent to us, and the care he took that neither town or country should be ignorant of what he wrote, we think you will agree with us that he had some other end than what is there pleaded. The letter was brought unsealed by Major Birch, and a copy of it was affixed to a post of the market house and great care taken by Major Birch that it should not be removed. At this time his emissaries were abroad in most parts of the county soliciting "subscriptions" to his certificate, which many through ignorance or example, or by threats of having horse and foot quartered on them were inducod to do. Many of his officers took money to free particular persons and towns, and by that means others who did not compound were excessively charged. That this poor country might have little hope of relief it was necessary that a letter should be sent in the nick of time reproving the Committee for their "saucinesse" and meddling with the soldier's quarters. As to his demands for money due and his desire of the county's good, we suppose that if any such money be due yet neither his great need of it nor his love for the county would have incited him to write in this manner. *Five Signatures. Signet.*

René Augier to Giles Greene, Chairman of the Committee for Foreign Affairs, at his house hard by the French Church, London.

1646–7, January 4, new style. Paris—"All this Court went to give holy water all this week to the late Prince of Condé's corpse. The Parliament itself sent some members to do him that office. The Jesuits had his heart carried to their grand church of St. Lewis in St. Anthony's Street: the *Minimes*, his bowels, and his body shall be buried at Valleri hard by Sens in Burgundy, where his father was buried. He left 1600 thousand livres a year viz. four hundred thousand in land, the rest in money, offices, and benefits. Monsieur de Nesmond his intendant, his executor, the Duke of Enguyen his universal heir, and the usufruct of all his goods to the princess his wife. The Duke of Enguyen—now Prince of Condé—hath 60000 crowns a year given him instead of the charge of high admiral. The deceased Prince had showed great respects a little afore he died to the Duke of Orleans who visited him, praying him to forget what was past, and to protect his children, whom he had commanded to honour and respect him as their own father.

Monsieur d'Estrade is sent again from hence to the Hague, and in the doubt they are here of the Hollanders peace with Spain, France doth dispose itself at all events to continue the war in Flanders, assuring themselves that with the money they use to give them yearly, with some small addition, they shall be able to maintain the fleet they are preparing and another army for the whole conquering of the Low Countries, before which it seems they are not inclining to make any agreement with the House of Austria, because the said House would afterwards upon the first occasion break it, were it only upon the pretence of Lorraine; as also they believe that for the inward quietness of this State during the king's minority and for the private interest of those who govern now, and for the conservation of Lorraine and other conquered provinces to the

Rhine, this court will conclude nothing with the said House but after the aforesaid conquest of the Low Countries.

There is a report that Wrangel hath overthrown four thousand Bavarians, and that he is pursuing his victory. Marshal de Praslin is joined with the Count d'Harcourt.

France doth strive to make a league in Italy against the Spaniards, and doth hope to get it into the Duke of Florence and to manage the Pope.

The Prince Rupert had several assurances by the mouth of Duke d'Orleans, the Cardinal Mazarin, and others, of the charge of the foreign forces mentioned in my last, but I am informed he differs to accept the commission of it, until he hears his uncle the King of Great Britain doth approve of it, which deference is well taken here.

The Prince of Wales had at last leave to receive the sacrament in the Hostel de Blinville. Several messages are sent every week between this and Ireland by their correspondency with my Lord Digby and the Pope's Nuncio Fermo, accounted the greatest cozener of his age even among the most cunning Italians.

Last Wednesday about three o'clock in the afternoon a bloody duel was fought on horseback two leagues from hence upon the way of Pont de Neuilly in the forest of Boulogne between four officers who formerly followed the King of England's party viz. Colonel Sir Thomas Sandys, Monsieur de St. Michel, Frenchman borne, heretofore Captain of Horse for his Majesty, Colonel Ambrose Jennings, second to the said Sandys, and Mr. Wittfield, Scotchman, gentleman of the Horse to Prince Rupert, second to the said St. Michel. Their quarrel was because St. Michel won some sixty pistoles to Sandys who refused to pay, yea and to give him a bill in writing, alleging in derision that he could not write. Thereupon the said St. Michel did challenge him, and being come to the rendezvous with their seconds, having charged their pistols one before the other, at the first discharge Colonel Sandys received five bullets into his arm, St. Michel hurt and fallen down by the fear of his horse, in raising himself struck with his sword the same Colonel in the arm, and both the seconds did so well pistol one another that a few hours after they died both, a priest who went by boasting that the said Wittfield whom he exhorted, who professed always to be a Protestant, had been converted by him and was dead a good Roman Catholic. He was buried in the Popish churchyard.

The Venetian Ambassador did expect I should have an answer this week about the pass whereof he prayed me to write to you in the behalf of Monsieur Wagstaff. I would be glad to give him a positive answer thereupon.

Sir Frederick Cornwallis married here Mr. Crofts his sister many months since, it is all I can tell you thereupon. I have as yet no answer from Mr. Cogill. I do expect it daily." *Signed.*

GEORGE LOWE to COLONEL EDWARD HARLEY, at Hereford.

1646[-7], January 13. "Brinnwold"—"I salute your return from your compatriots to the necessary visitation of your complayning countrymen. I hope yow have made some progresse against our late usurper, and desire yow would satisfy mee some thing in it that perhaps may act some part to his tragedy that another man can't. I shall request likewise something of the present great affaires, the mocion of the King, and his first residence of party, or advance point blank to London, the Scot's regresse and what wilbee disposed of Sir Thomas Fairfax, his army. According as I shall bee ascertained by yow I shall steere my course.

We have a rumour heere the king is to receive the Parliament commissioners at Homeby. If so, I sett forward that way whence I shall retorne you the passages of that place. I shall beg the best estate of the Irish affaires, for Sir William Brereton hath made mee tamper that way already. Sir, I wish to bee esteemed your serious friend and one that will restore as much of the talent hee borrowes as the times will suffer to bee unwasted."

AMBROSE ELTON, High Sheriff, to COLONEL HARLEY, at Hereford.

1646[–7], January 16. Hasle—I desire to hear from you when I shall be delivered from this troublesome office. Let me pray you also to be a friend to Mr. Watts of Marcle who has had some trouble with the Committee about taking the covenant and who is now going to London to confer with the most learned divine of the Assembly about the scruples which lie on his conscience.

COLONEL JOHN BIRCH to the COMMITTEE for HEREFORDSHIRE.

1646[–7], January 22. Westminster—In my last I desired your thoughts concerning the garrison; I have received no answer yet but expect it daily. To the intent not to be abused I caused my letter to be published, it being my practice to put nothing under my hand which I desire may not be made public. *Copy.*

COLONEL JOHN BIRCH to MAJOR RICHARD HOPTON, and others.

1646[–7], January 22. Westminster—I had hoped before this to have received the commands of the House concerning you and the supply of your wants, but the multitude of business has prevented it. In the meantime I desire you to be very careful of your behaviour, for you have many "waitinge for your haltinge" and therefore if there should be any miscarriage, that I may know where the fault is. I require you to quarter within your assignation and not elsewhere. And for the care of the well affected I desire you to quarter upon those who are in arrear of their contributions for the six months; and besides those, quarter as much as may be on delinquents and "neutors;" and those who are friends to the Parliament and so by consequence to yourselves, let them be favoured. *Copy.*

CAPTAIN JOHN HAKLUYT to COLONEL HARLEY, at Hereford.

1646[–7], January 26. Westminster—A remonstrance has come from the Parliament of Scotland. The contents as far as I can hear are, that they desire a brotherly accord according to covenant and that they may have commissioners at Holmby or wherever the king is, to certify how affairs go, and to join in pressing the king to sign the propositions, and if he peremptorily refuse, then will they join with the Parliament of England in the way thought best, for the security of both kingdoms. Hudson is voted a traitor and committed close prisoner to the Tower. *Signet.*

The SAME to the SAME or to DOCTOR WRIGHT or MAJOR BLAYNEY.

1646[–7], January 30. Westminster—Your father often wishes you were here, as there will be now an opportunity to move for your particulars, as also for our poor country. *Signet.*

Colonel Robert Kyrle to his kinsman, Colonel Harley.

1646[-7], February 3. Walford.—Since you came into the country I have been tied by business in the Forest of Dean. I understand you have summoned some of the chief of our county to inform you of the sufferings thereof, that you may the better proceed to ease us. *Signet.*

The Committee at Hereford to William Lenthall, Speaker of the House of Commons.

1646[-7], February 6. Hereford—Concerning the extortions and exactions of the soldiery in Herefordshire, and the unfair way in which they have been quartered upon the people. *Five signatures.*

A Council of War.

1646[-7], February 12. Bristol—"Whereas the severall troupes of horse now raised for the service of Ireland, and brought downe into those partes for to bee sent over into that kingdome, accordinge to their severall contractes made with the collonells and captaines by the Committee of Lordes and Commons for the affaiers of Ireland, at Westminster, cannott bee transported from the port of Bristoll for want of shippinge and other necessarie provisions. Itt is therefore this daie ordered by the Councell of Warr, called by the Lord Lieutenaunte, that five troopes of horse shall immediatlie march into Herefordshire, Monmothshire, Glamorganshire, and parte of Gloucestershire that lies west of Seaverne in Brecknockshire, there to be in readines to bee shipped either from Milforde or Penwarth, and that fower troupes shall imediatlie march downe towardes Barstable and the other portes lyeinge uppon those coastes, there to attend the first conveniency of transportacion for Ireland, and that the seaven remaineing troopes shall continue in the partes adjacent unto this port of Bristoll, until the other troupes bee transported from the portes afforesaid, or that they can find conveniency of shippinge to transport them from Miniarde or anie other place lyeinge towards the coastes of Ireland.

And it is further ordered that in the meane season while conveniency of shippinge and other necessaries for transportacion maie bee had, the severall captaines and comaunders doe take speciall care that the said troupes may soe lye as they maie in the least measure bee burdensome to the severall counties wherein they must for the present bee inforced to quarter. And therefore for that end it is thought fitt and wee doe desier the severall committees in the said counties where they quarter, that for the short tyme they are to abide there, they will soe place them as may bee with most ease to the country and best accomodacion to the souldier. And whereas there is onelie seaven shillinges a weeke allowed by the Lordes and Commons for the affaiers of Ireland towardes the quarteringe and mainetenance of each trouper, itt is ordered that in case anie troupes quartered as afforesaid shall faile of payment of his quarters that the chief officers of everie troupe shall give ticketts unto those they quarter upon, and soe much as rests undischarged of the said quarters to the value of seaven shillinges a weeke shall earnestlie bee recomended to the committee for the affaiers of Ireland, to bee discharged and satisfied. And itt is therefore further ordered that the troupers shalbee content with such reasonable provisions as their respective quarters can afforde them, and that they shall not, upon anie pretence whatsoever, demaunde or receive anie money of such

persons upon whom they doe quarter, and in case they doe that uppon complaint thereof and proofe made, they shall loose their horse and armes, bee casheered, and bee lyable to such further punishement as the councell of warr shall thinke fitt.

And it is further ordered that the severall commaunders and captaines to whom the power of martiall lawe is given by the Lord Lieutenaunte of Ireland accordinge to an ordinance of the Lordes and Commons assembled in Parliament, beringe date the sixt daie of this present moneth, shall from tyme to tyme hould a councell of warr, and shall inquire into anie particuler abuses and insolencyes that shalbee committed by anie of the officers and troupers under their comaundes, and shall severelie punishe the same accordinge to the articles of warr made for the armie under the comaund of Sir Thomas Fairfax." *Approved by Lord Lisle. Copy.*

LORD LISLE to the COMMITTEE of HEREFORD.

1646[-7], February 15. Bristol—By the result of a council of war, a copy of which I send you, I am obliged to entreat your assistance to the officers who command the horse, that for the short time they stay with you they may have all reasonable accommodation and quarters. For their better regulation I have given a commission of martial land to some of the officers, which will, I doubt not, prevent all other inconveniences to the country save the present and necessary supply which I crave of you. *Copy.*

RICHARD BROUGHTON to SIR ROBERT HARLEY, at his lodgings in New Church.

1646[-7], February 17. Hereford—Asking for an augmentation for the living of Aylton. *Signed, Ri de Mala Villa. Signet.*

THOMAS PHILPOTS to AMBROSE ELTON the younger, Sheriff of Herefordshire.

1646[-7], February 18. Hereford Prison—I have sent my servant to give you intelligence that Major Birch, Governor of the Castle, came to the prison with other officers, unknown to me, and broke open the door and rescued one, Mr. Miles Hill, a prisoner committed to custody upon an execution of 153*l.* I would desire you to take some strict course with officers militant, that they demean themselves more civilly according to the laws of the land; otherwise I shall be unable to sustain the burden of this charge.

RICHARD WOTTON to COLONEL EDWARD HARLEY.

1646[-7], February 20—On business concerning a stewardship.

AMBROSE ELTON to his kinsman, SIR ROBERT HARLEY, in London.

1646[-7], February 20. Hasle—I enclose a letter from the gaoler to let me know of a misdemeanour of Major Birch. I hear the House has voted me Sheriff for the next year. "Truly, sir, I borrowed soe much money as my credett will reach to, and now I am sellinge of land

which my father hath for his life, I having none that I can put of, it being my wife's joynture. When this office was put on me I was in debt 830*l.*, and now 1,000*l.* The use of this and the rent to my father for the land that now I sell will goe a greate way in that smale estate, which is but 200*l.* a year that I have in posecion. I intende to be at London this springe to seeke for some allowance." *Signet.*

THOMAS MILWARD to SIR ROBERT HARLEY.

1646[–7], February 21—Giving an account of the release of Miles Hill by Major Birch. *Signet.*

The COMMITTEE at HEREFORD to SIR ROBERT HARLEY, COLONEL EDWARD HARLEY, WALTER KYELE, BENNETT HOSKINS, WILLIAM CROWTHER, and EDWARD WEAVER.

1646[–7], March 1. Hereford—Giving an account of the grievances of the county from the heavy charge of horse and foot soldiers quartered upon the inhabitants. *Five signatures. Signet.*

HEREFORDSHIRE.

1646[–7], March 3. Westminster—Offers made by Colonel Birch for the relief of Herefordshire.

On behalf of the county :—

(1.) That every foot soldier under his command shall allow the county 2*s.* 8*d.* a week for the time he has receeived free quarters.

(2.) That every foot soldier under his command shall allow to the county one fourth of the pay due to him for the same purpose.

(3.) That allowance shall be made for all horses and goods wrongfully taken.

On behalf of the soldiers :—

(1.) That their accounts be made up from the 17th December to the 1st March, on which day the vote was passed.

(2.) That the balance due upon that account be paid to the officers and soldiers, and that they forthwith march out of the county, company by company, as they are discharged.

Or as an alternative scheme—

(1.) That what is unpaid in the county of the nine months contribution of 600*l.* a week be paid within ten days.

(2.) That two months' contributions at the same rate be paid to himself or his nominee within ten days. *Copy.*

SIR R. H[ARLEY] to the MAYOR, ALDERMEN, and COMMON COUNCIL of the City of Hereford.

1646[–7], March 3. Westminster—Thanking them for electing him their High Steward. *Draft.*

COLONEL JOHN BIRCH to [the COMMITTEE at HEREFORD ?].

1646[7], March 15.—Sending an account of 162*l.* for fortifying and repairing the Castle and bringing timber from Gooderich.

JOHN FLACKETT to COLONEL EDWARD HARLEY.

1647, March 26. Hereford—Concerning the appointment of Mr. Beale to the office in Hereford Cathedral offered to Mr. Froysell.

The COMMITTEE at HEREFORD to Sir Robert Harley, at Westminster.

1647, March 27. Hereford—Concerning arrangements with Colonel Birch for the reduction of the charges upon Herefordshire. *Four signatures.*

——— to COLONEL HARLEY, at Westminster.

1647, March 27. Saffron Walden—I understand that this day your Lieutenant-Colonel drew your regiment to a rendezvous and the petition was read at the head of them and signed by about 1,100. I understand that he said that all the officers and soldiers who refused should be cashiered.

I much doubt the event unless the Parliament take some high resolutions. They intend to enslave the kingdom as far as I can hear. If the Parliament would provide money and send for Major-General Skippon, I am confident they could do what they please with the army. Without that course I fear they will prove troublesome.

The COMMITTEE for COMPOUNDING with DELINQUENTS.

1647, April 5. Goldsmiths Hall—Ordering Richard Waring and Michael Herring the Treasurers to pay the sum of 6,740*l.* to the Committee at Hereford.

COLONEL SAMUEL MOORE to SIR ROBERT HARLEY, WALTER KYRLE, BENNETT HOSKINS, and WILLIAM CROWTHER.

1647, April 15. Hereford—Thanking them for appointing him Governor of Hereford. *Signet.*

The COMMITTEE at HEREFORD to RICHARD WARING and MICHAEL HERRING.

1647, April 19. Hereford—Directing them to pay to Sir Robert Harley the sum of 6,740*l.* ordered by Parliament to be paid to their appointees, out of the receipts at Goldsmith's Hall. *Draught.*

——— to ———.

1647, April 20. Suffolk.—"Most houses where the soldiers quarter, can testify their high discontented speeches agaynst the parliament, and of ther resolutions to goe on with the petition. I doubt not but you have hard how Ireton's regiment declared themselves at Ipwich last Thirsday when the soldiers meet; sum of them made speeches crying out, 'all disband or none; all for Ireland or none.' The soldiers conclude that they who have beene so badly payd in England shall be holely neglected if they shall goe into Ireland, and this takes them off from Goring. As for the petition they now speake it openly, that they will

send it upp, with two out of every troope, and they expect the parliament should clap them up whoe goe up with it. And then they will presently sett upon starving the citty, whare they doubt not but to finde such a party as the parliament will be glad to lett the soldiers out agayne. I heare they bost of aprentices and butchers by name, and if wee add to these the malignants, and discontented parsons and all such as will close with the army, wee may well feare they will finde too considerable a partey. It is feared the parliament will not finde any great helpe from the assotiation, for the people heare grow very discontented, and the very report of the continuance of taxes doth so gall the cuntry, as it makes them too apt to listen to the discontented speeches of the soldiers. It is feared if the army should continue long heere the parliament's friends would bee reduced to a small number, where-as if they could prevayle to get them out of the assosiation, ther freinds that remayne would yet dare to show them selves for ther defence if neede ware, and would be able also to keepe downe that party that will assuredly rise if an army be ready to joyne with them. If sum course be not speedily taken we shall not know our freinds from our foes, and those whoe bare any command must be forsed shortly to give up thare commitions; for the very being a commander—whilst we are thus under the powar of the sword—imbitternes them agaynst us. For the soldiers setting ther hands generally to the petition, wee heare only of one major, that keept his troope from subscribing; and the last Thursday at Ipwich, when he saw the dispozition of the soldiers, hee sayd he was glad he had keept his owne troope from subscribing; and presently sixty of his owne troope went and sett ther hands to the petition. The soldiers both in Norfolke and Suffolke sing one note; namely, that they have fought all this tyme to bring the king to London; and to London they will bring the king. I heare from sum hands that they have sum printed papers amongst them wharein ther is ther owne petition above; the parliaments declaration below; and betwixt these, most bitter languidge agaynst the parliament, and agayst Stapleton, Earle, and Hollis, by name. Sum of the soldiers doe not sticke to call the parliament men, tyrants. Lilborne's bookes are quoted by them as statute-law. Sum of the soldiers cannot refrayne from bosting that they have officer handes to ther petition although they will not bee seene in it. Now if the officers have a hand in the designe, it will ley the longer hidd; but wee hope the parliament will be carefull that although sum cheefe officers should seeme to desert the soldiers in this designe, yet not to trust them with any new command for the suppressing of the army if they should rebell. Though the army differ in judgement about religion yet they all agree in ther discontented speeches agaynst the parliament: and though the soldiers liying on the cuntry bee a burden to them, yet this rayseth ther discontent agaynst the parliament, and not agaynst the souldiers whoes fayer carriage winns much upon the people, and they are not offended with ther invaighings agaynst the parliament, but ready raither to joyne with them in it. They threaten the presbyterian ministers and one of ther officers lately asked one that cam from Essex what the preests ther sayd of them; whither they did not wish them all disbanded; 'but' sayth hee 'we will never disband till wee have cutt all the preests' throates; it will never be well with England as long as ther is one preest alive."

Endorsed: "Letter delivered in by a member concerning some discontented speeches uttered by some souldiers against the Parliament. Read 27th April, 1647." *See Journals of the House of Commons.*

IRELAND.

1647, April 27.—"Examinacons and informacons concerninge some discouraging speeches to the disservice of Ireland reported" to the House of Commons. The informations include copies of letters from Major Francis Dormer, Lieutenant Alexander Fry, Ensign Evan Morris, and Captain Robert Fish to Lieutenant Colonel Kempson. *Twelve pages. See Journals of the House of Commons.*

WILLIAM STEPHENSON to the PARISHIONERS of Wigmore and Leinthall Starkes.

1647. April 30. Burrough Green—Offering to resume his post as their minister.

HEREFORD CASTLE.

1647, April—A note of the cannon, arms, and ammunition left by Colonel Birch in the Castle.

SIR ROBERT HARLEY to JOHN EVE, Serjeant to Colonel Lambert.

1647, May 1—Summons to appear before a Committee of the House of Commons appointed to consider a book called "*A new found Stratagem &c.*" *Signed.*

HENRY SAMPSON to SIR ROBERT HARLEY.

1647, May 10 [Hereford Prison]—I have been here four months upon an execution of 200*l.* owing to William Bodenham. You will remember that last Midsummer I placed a warrant in your hands for two fat oxen worth 200*l.* which Colonel Birch took from me. My request to you now is to send me the warrant that I may the sooner obtain the money. *Signet.*

COLONEL EDWARD HARLEY to SIR ROBERT HARLEY.

1647, May 18. Hereford—"My brother, who I hope will safely bring this to you, is best able to give you an account of the good success God hath graciously given to his business.

Sir, Sunday last, Major Birch informed the committee that Ewyas-Lacy hundred was in armes to resist Captain French his troope, designed to quarter ther—though not by the committee's order. He pretended to us that the numbers of the rising countreymen were very great, and that the like intention would be speedily executed in all other parts of the county. To allay this in the best manner I could—upon the desires of the committee—I went immediately towards Longtowne in Ewyas-Lacy hundred, where the countrey men made theyr randesvouz, but before I could arrive there, Captain French had fought with them. In the fight one souldyer was killed, the captain, and two or three more slightly hurt, but of the countrey, three are buryed, and divers others sorely hurt. Presently after this past, I came to the countreymen, who were much enraged at theyr losse and were raysing all theyr neighbours to joyne to revenge it; but upon my perswasions—I thanke God—they quitely layed downe theyr armes and repayred to theyr homes, and

promised to come to mee the next morning to acquaint mee with theyr reasons for theyr rising. Yesterday, they came to mee and complayned of very many intollerable abuses of Captain Frenche his troope ; as that besides theyr residing quarters, they had places of assistance from whence they extorted 2^s 0^d per diem, for each trooper and some unmounted, and yet did not pay for any provision ; that the souldyers beate theyr landlords if they would not give theyr horses what provender they desired, and allso suffer them to eate in theyr mowing grounds ; that when they complayned of these outrages to the officers they were enterteyned only with blowes and ill language ; and that the souldyers would not let them know what orders they had to quarter upon them. I told the countrey men that the parlement would not tollerate such behavior in their souldyers, but the way of rising which they tooke was not allowable, and would bring more prejudice then advantage to them, and that I would acquaint the committee with theyr greevances, who should give them a speedy day to be heard and receave redresse. The countrey accepted this, promised mee to remayne quiet, and if the souldyers came with orders and remayned civill, they should receave convenient quarters. The commander of the countrey men, one Wallbief, who hath beene a captain for the parlement, is come along with mee hither to justifie what he hath done, but we have secured him—and with his owne good liking—to be ready to answere what may be layed to his charge. Sir, I have made this relation thus long because I heare Major Birch hath sent an expresse to London about it, and that you may be provided to oppose any misinformation of this business. The souldyers heere are generally so abusive that nothing but feare of displeasing the parlement keepes the countrey from righting themselves, therefore I beseeche you be pleased to endever the taking up of money to discharge them." *Signet.*

COLONEL JOHN BIRCH to SIR ROBERT HARLEY.

1647, [May?] 22. Edinburgh—I can hardly tell you how things go here. They are at a stand ; there are two violent parties, the ministry and about sixty lords and commons desperately opposing a war and they publicly protest against it and curse them in pulpits who would carry it on. The other party are as desperate for an army ; and both at that height that you would believe that it would break out daily ; but upon the whole I think no considerable force will be raised here so long as they are so divided, which is like to continue, especially if the hands of the ministry were strengthened by doing something against heresy. In point of government and for monarchy, we do what we can to bear the good party up here, but I wish it were well "wayed" by others. *Signet.*

COLONEL EDWARD HARLEY to his father, SIR ROBERT HARLEY.

1647, May 24, Hereford—Introducing Mr. Tobit Payne. *Signet.*

EDWARD PINNER to SIR ROBERT HARLEY.

1647, May 28—A long letter of explanation and remonstrance.

HEREFORDSHIRE.

1647, March 29—July—Particulars of money borrowed, and paid to the officers and soldiers of Colonel Birch's regiment, amounting altogether to 6,347*l.* 16*s.*

The Eleven Members to [the Speaker of the House of Commons].

1647 [July]—"Finding by the answer which the army hath sent to the Common Councell that wee ly eunder a very greate prejudice which may make our comeinge to the House and attendance there to bee of some inconvenience both to the House and to us, wee have thought fit to represent unto you and by your favour unto the House that wee shall resume our former resolution of withdrawing ourselves, which wee had laid aside upon their command, but will remain in towne and expect their pleasure, it being our intention to conforme ourselves wholly thereunto, which wee have always made the rule of our actions, as we have the testimony of our consciences to have faithfully and dilligently performed our service whilst wee had the honour to sitt there. Sir we shall pray for their happiness." *Copy.*

Sir Robert Harley to his son, Colonel Edward Harley.

1647, September 18. The Mint—On business and family matters *Signet.*

The Same to the Same, at Hill Hall.

1647, September 21. Westminster—This letter may bring you word "what the resolution of the House shalbe concerning the K[ing], for they are this day in debate of it, and for what I can heare it is likely to be carried against his answer."

The Same to the Same.

1647, September 27. Westminster—On Saturday according to my promise to you I went to —— where I found reproofs towards us both more ready than counsels. Yet on desiring him to do a good office if it lay in his power, he said he would. Mr. Solicitor will not be in town this week.

Richard Bytheway to Colonel Edward Harley.

1647, October 4. Leintwardine—On private affairs. *Signet.*

Sir Robert Harley to his son, Colonel Harley, at Hill Hall.

1647, October 7. Westminster.—On business. *Signet.*

James Shilton to Colonel Edward Harley.

1647, October 11—On business.

Timothy Woodroffe to Colonel Edward Harley.

1647, October 19. Gloucester.—A long religious letter. *Signet.*

Sir Robert Harley to his son, Colonel Harley, at Hill Hall.

1647, October 23. Westminster—"I hope the Lord hath blessed your physick to you," so that your health will be confirmed by it. *Signet.*

Sir Robert Harley to his son, Colonel Harley, at Hill Hall.

1647, November 1. Westminster—I hear they intend to remove the King on Thursday or Friday next to Theobalds and so to Saffron Walden and thence as "time shall tell and truth shall prove and occasion shall rest contented." Let me know by your next the state of your sister Brill's health. *Signet.*

Alexander Clogie to Sir Robert Harley, in Channel Row, Westminster.

1647, November 7. Wigmore—Speaking well of the people of Wigmore to whom he has come to minister, but complaining of the inhabitants of Leinthall as most unwilling to come to the place where he considers himself bound to exercise his ministry. *Signet.*

Fr[ances], Viscountess Conway to her brother[-in-law], Sir Robert Harley.

1647, November 8. Ragley Lodge—Inquiring after his health. *Signed. Signet.*

Sir Robert Harley to his son, Colonel Harley, at Hill Hall.

1647, November 17. Westminster—I like your plan to remove next week, but you must write me by the carrier what money you will want next week. You must send Mrs. Turton up to-morrow to make the house ready here, for it is all mouldy for want of fires, and Bagly must have carts ready to bring away all the stuff on the same day as you remove. When you send me word what day you will come I will send a coach for you. *Signet.*

The Same to the Same.

1647, November 23. Westminster—I have provided a good coach against Thursday. I hope you will be ready betimes to come away. The coach will, I hope, be with you about eleven o'clock.

Richard Philpotts, Mayor of Hereford, and others to Sir Robert Harley.

1647[-8], January 3. Hereford—Concerning the assessment of the city for the payment of the army. *Signet.*

John Hall to Sir Robert Harley.

1647[-8], February 3. Kingsland—Asking him to stay legal proceedings for non-payment of rent. *Signed.*

Timothy Woodroffe and others, Ministers at Hereford to Sir Robert Harley.

1647[-8], February 12. Hereford—For the last three or four weeks Colonel Humphreys and his soldiery and now the city magistracy and

officers have caused unruly fellows to be quartered not only upon us the city ministers, but also upon our brethren of the minster. The oppression is very great and we beseech you to think of some expedient by which such quartering upon us may be prevented. We are not liable to such charges, which are great hindrances to our calling. *Signed.*

T. Lord Fairfax to William Lenthall, Speaker of the House of Commons.

1647[-8], February 15. Queen Street—Asking that Colonel Doyly's petition to the House for his arrears, might be heard. *Copy.*

William Lenthall, Speaker of the House of Commons, to Major Robert Harley.

1647[-8], February 25. Commons House—Conveying to him the thanks of the House for his services, and promising that justice should be done to him for the affront he had received from Captain French's troop. *Signed. Signet. See Commons Journals, same date.*

Thomas Davies to Sir Robert Harley.

1647[-8], March 4. Wigmore—Concerning Mr. Wall's affairs. *Signet.*

Sir Robert Harley to the Ministers of Hereford.

1647[-8], March 4. Westminster—Begging them not be discouraged and enclosing "personall protections." *Signed.*

Alexander Clogie to Sir Robert Harley.

1647[-8], March 19 Wigmore.—On parochial business.

Sir Robert Harley.

1647[-8]. March 19—Appointment by Sir Robert Harley of Bennet Hoskyns and Edward Freeman to be his deputy stewards of the City of Hereford. *Signed.*

John Weaver and others, burgesses of Wigmore to Sir Robert Harley.

1647[-8], March 24—Asking him to obtain an augmentation of stipend for the minister of Wigmore. *Signed.*

Samuel Shilton to [Sir Robert Harley].

1648, April 1—Concerning the appointment of the bailiff for the bailywick of Kingsland.

Bennet Hoskyns to Sir Robert Harley, at Westminster.

1648, April 3. Morehampton—I have given Colonel Freeman a hint to use our worthy ministers with respect. I doubt not but that we shall prevent further trouble between them. He is now gone the South Wales circuit. *Signet.*

WILLIAM LOWE to SIR ROBERT HARLEY, at his house in Tothill Street, Westminster.

1648, April 24. Hereford—Thanking him for obtaining exemption for himself and the rest of his brethren from the quartering of soldiers. *Signet.*

MAJOR T. BLAYNY to COLONEL EDWARD HARLEY.

1648, May 13. Hereford—Colonel Horton has "rowled" the Welsh and killed and taken near four thousand. The Lieutenant-General is now before Chepstow, where there are divers men of note, cavaliers, combined and confined, and, it is thought, will be forced to a speedy surrender of that place. Miles Hill plays the rascal here most basely, and published with foul and open mouth that the Welsh rising was a Presbyterian design. If these words will bear weight they will be proved, besides his aspersions of your noble family, which I should not brook were I able to stir abroad. *Signet.*

THOMAS HARLEY to his brother, COLONEL EDWARD HARLEY.

1648, June 13. Trinity College, Cambridge—"Wee have had here some martial fumes which have troubled Minerve's headpeice. At the schooles on Tuesday last, the royall sophs were so extravagant in fearing the parliament that the other party kicked downe the moderator and opponent, and beat them all out; which ended not so, for the next day they mett againe, the Royalists being assisted with townsmen and clubs, but the other party prevailed with some broken heads, which hath since so encouraged them, that they resolve out of the severall colledges to make up a party to defend themselves against Goring, if he march hither; the feare of which hath oft alarumd us, put us in the colledge upon our watch, and occasioned a summons from the Deputy-Leiutenant for the appearance of the traine-bands &c. here yesterday, resolving if there had a considerable number come, to have kept Goring hence. But there appeared not horse and foot, one hundred, and they expressed as much malignancy as they durst.

I rejoice, deare Brother, to hear you are enabled to be againe serviceable to the kingdome. May you still find much comfort in your employments." *Seal.*

THOMAS FROYSELL to his cousin, SIR ROBERT HARLEY, at Westminster.

1648, June 26. Hereford—Urging him not to give the vacant living of Kingsland to Mr. Hughes. *Signet.*

THOMAS HARLEY to his brother, COLONEL EDWARD HARLEY.

1648, June 27. Trinity College, Cambridge—"I saluted you with some small shot so lately, that you may well suspect by my oft approaches I have some designe against you, especially seing the very times encourage those to such kind of undertakings, which otherwise they would not be guilty off. But there is no feare of paper-pellets, though I confes they were sent out with no small—yet affectionate—force; and to deale freely, it was only to make way for a parley, that so I might have the favor and with more freedome, to run the line whereby you being the terminus *ad quem* there might be a conveiance fitted that might at this distance enable your eare to receive my whispers.

I cannot but suppose you would rather have spared my giving this account of what I formerly did, then that I should thereby take occasion to continue my disturbing you, and indeed it had prevailed with mee but that there is a stronger enforcement which compells the contrary; nay, my very pen when it is to you, will rather lispe then say nothing, and makes haste to blurt out if not *literam* yet *litera*.

My cosin Smith desires you to receive his love and service. He hath beene much civiller since Mr. Cecill's going hence, but as for the Encyclopædia he takes it to be little better then a conjurer's circle, and therefore keepes off. He would be willing to try a journey to Parnassus, especially seeing it may be on horseback, did not he believe Pegasus to be but a tired jade, having beene a hackney among scholars so long. I should wonder he hath not beene enamored on the Muses who passe for virgins, did not I suspect he feares they are hagges and witches, those night-mares which ride scholars, and leave nought behind but paleness and a white-cap. But without jesting, I shall endeavor to further, what I can, his advantage, neither have I mentioned his non-proficiency to other end, then least the expectations that the University would fasten better impressions on him, be frustrated. However I despaire not but that his being here will be very beneficiall." *Signet.*

HEREFORDSHIRE.

1648, June 30—Order from the committee of the militia in Herefordshire to Colonel Edward Harley to raise a regiment of foot in the hundreds of Broxash, Huntington, Wigmore, Stretford, Grimsworth and Welphy and to send in a return of the names of his officers within a fortnight. *Signed by Sir Robert Harley, Robert Kyrle and seven others.*

THOMAS HARLEY to his brother, COLONEL EDWARD HARLEY.

1648, July 14. Trinity College, Cambridge—" Wee had lately an alarm here from that party which hath since biene routed at St. Needes, twelve myle hence. It is remarkeable how God blowes on all their projects; though no sooner one head cut off but like an Hydra another springs up. The least that can be now spoke of the army is what Hybreas said to Euthydamus, one who used tyranny and yet was profitable to the Commonwealth. '*Euthydame*, thou art *malum necessarium nam nec tecum vivere possumus, nec sine te.*' "

TIMOTHY WOODROFFE and others to SIR ROBERT HARLEY.

1649, July 14. Hereford—Recommending that Mr. Seaborne an apothecary should be chosen as the new Mayor of the City. *Signed, Signet.*

Sir R. H[arley] to WILLIAM HACKWILL, at his chamber in Lincoln's Inn.

1648, July 19. Westminster—" I having set up a chaundler's shop, by the light of the candles understand it a duty of civility to present you the fyrst I utter; and though there be twelve in the pound, the best of them is big enough to promise our Lady in a storme at sea to be set safe on the shore. But if I make known the quallity of my

candles—who have the week, and waxe, and light, from you—that they will last an age, shall I not marr my market? For no boddy will aske for more than an inch of candle, and few will come to the price of that. You must therefore set mee up with some other staple commodity that may be every man's money, and so I may be able to give you a sober accompt of what you trust in my hands and some distinguishing carracter of those I deale with, or come and keepe the shop yourself. For fooles as well as wise men put out their candles when they goe to bed. In the meane while I pray you accept of my good will, which, if you scorne, you are no wiser than you should be." *Draft.*

The College of Westminster.

1648, August 12—Order by the committee of the College of Westminster that Sir Robert Hulse, Sir Robert Pye, Mr. Hoyle and Mr. Gourdon or any three of them be desired to view the crucifixes and superstitious pictures in the regalia, and give orders for defacing and demolishing them. Also to bring before the committee a chalice of gold whereon there is a crucifix which they were informed was in the regalia. *Signed by W. Ashurst.*

Lord Poulett and Sir J. Poulett to the House of Commons.

[1648, August ?]—Petition against the order of the House of Commons of the 7th of August last for the cutting down of two thousand oaks on the lands belonging to Lord Poulett. *Signed.*

Viscount Conway and Kilulta to his nephew, Colonel Harley.

1648, September 8. Sion—I expected to have had a note from you of what you desired from my Lady of Kent. If you have not changed your mind, send it to me and I will write or go to her as you think best. *Signet.*

Edward Conway to his cousin, Colonel Edward Harley, in London.

1648, September 8. Lisnegaray—"I should often adventure to trouble you with my letters and give you an account of this country, but that the small supplies which have been sent to the forces in it hath occasioned them to act little against the enemy this summer, which is worthy to interrupt the business you are employed in of greater importance. Neither have we been able to lay hold upon those opportunities which the divisions among themselves have offered, and it is very probable will continue. For there hath been much blood spilt betweene them, one party being for the King's command over them, as they term it, and the other for the Pope's. Only at the present, Colonel Jones hath made hard shift to go into the field for a month with a good traine of artillery, intending to take some castles in the county of Kildare, whilst Preston and the Lord Taafe doe besiege Galloway, which stands for the Nuncio. Owen O'Neile endeavouring to releeve it, and passing the Shannon river, lost many of his men. I pray Sir present my most humble service to my uncle, and be pleased to favour me with your assistance, when Colonel Hill shall desire it, in procuring the payment of some money or in laying it upon the excise, which was ordered for me by the Parliament last year. *Signet.*"

BEATRICE HERBERT to her cousin, SIR ROBERT HARLEY, in London.

1648, September 29—Had I not been more beholden to you for your pious care in my education than to my Lord my father for his paternal care and provision, I might have been totally forsaken both for comfort and for portion for my subsistence. But my unknown condition necessitated me to dispense with the want of all outward blessings in competition with better. However I am very sensible of your seasonable reminding his Lordship of me and of your frequent assistance and conscientious consideration.

THOMAS SEABORNE, Mayor, and others, to SIR ROBERT HARLEY.

1648, October 20. Hereford—Informing him of his election as Steward of the City of Hereford. *Signed. Signet.*

SIR HARBOTTLE GRIMSTON to SIR ROBERT HARLEY.

1648, Oct. 21.—"Wee have sent yow up the King's second finall answere to the Church. It is somewhat better than the first, and the mending of it hath not much worke, and yet we feare it will not give full satisfaction to the Houses, but if we breake with the Kinge about this, haveing condiscended so farr, in this particular, and almost fully satisfyd in all other matters, I cannot tell how we shall be able to answere it to God, the world, or our owne consciences. Therefore imploy all the interest you have, if you fynd the house be not disposed to acquiesce with this for the present, then, so to ordernary busines, that it be but voted unsatisfactory, and put us upon it the third tyme, for we shall have nothinge more to doe, and if we can prevayle no further with him, yet we shall then bring his answere up ourselves, and have a vote amongst yee. Beleeve it, there is not a man amongst us that thinke it worth the endangeringe the kingdome for, and if more cannot be gotten, I hope some expedient will be found out for an accommodation. We are now gone thorough all the propositions and have sent up his Majestie's answere thereunto. Take altogeather, I suppose it may passe for a good bargayne. Pray desyre all our freinds to attend the house diligently and lett not a shipp richly laden after a long voyage full of hazards, be cast away within sight of land." *Signet.*

T. LORD FAIRFAX to ALL OFFICERS, SOLDIERS, and others.

1648, December 4—Direction not to quarter any officers or soldiers at Sir Robert Harley's house in Tothill Street, Westminster, he providing elsewhere for such as are laid upon him, and not to enter his house or to do any prejudice to the same or to his person or to any of his family. *Signed. Signet.*

T. LORD FAIRFAX to the MARSHALL GENERAL.

1648, December 25—Direction not to remove Sir Robert Harley or his son from his house till further order. *Signed.*

The HOUSE OF COMMONS.

1648 [December ?]—An incorrect draft of the Act of the House of Commons appointing a committee for trying the king. *See Rushworth's Collections, Vol. II., Part IV., p.* 1379.

Lady Elizabeth Holles to her cousin, Colonel Edward Harley.

1648.—On private affairs.

The Grand Jury and Justices of the Peace of Herefordshire to the House of Commons.

1648 [-9], January 9. Hereford—Petition for the regular payment of the army. *Copy.*

Alexander Clogie to Stanley Gower, one of the Assembly of Divines at Westminster.

1648[-9], January 9. Wigmore—Asking for assistance in money. *Signet.*

T. Lord Fairfax to all Officers and Soldiers under his command.

1648[-9], January 12—Pass for Arnold Gelly servant to Major Robert Harley to go to Wigmore in Herefordshire and return to London with two of his master's horses. *Signed. Signet.*

Arthur Annesley, Edmund Stephens, William Strode, William Prynne, Edward Harley, Thomas Gewen, Zouche Tate, John Crewe, John Bulkeley, Edward Leigh, Samuel Gott, and E. Vaughan to [James] Cranford.

1648[-9], January 16—"Wee desire you to license this vindication of the majority of the House of Commons unjustly charged in a paper lately printed, intituled '*The humble answer of the General counsell of Officers of the Army to the demands of the Honorable the Commons of England assembled in Parliament concerning the late securing or secluding some members thereof.*"

The King.

1648 [-9], January 20—A list of the Commissioners who sate for the trial of the King.

Colonel E. H[arley] to Lord Fairfax.

1648 [-9], January 23.—"Your Lordship in a letter to the House of Commons desired that the late remonstrance of your army might be considered, not because it came from the army, but for the reason and righteousnesse of the things contained in it. The like request I make now to your Excelleney, that you will not receive the enclosed papers with the prejudice that they are presented to you from one who hath suffered above a yeare under a charge from your army, and an imprisonment of six weekes under your marshall, but entertaine them according to the reason and righteousnesse which they hold forth. Then I am confident, trust in them, as it workes alwaies upon the lovers of it, will prevaile to convince your Lordship, that no respect to our particular advantage, nor envy, or revenge against your army, but the powerfull ties of the greatest trust from men, and solemne covenant to God, have

caused myselfe and other my fellow-sufferers to oppose your army in their late and present actings, by which I must take leave to say they are hastily digging a miserable sepulchre for all the beauty and strength of our native kingdom, if God be not pleased wonderfully to deliver. And truly, my Lord, I thinke I cannot pay a greater gratitude to those large respects I have received from your Lordships, then by putting your Excellency in mind that in your condition neither God nor man can be satisfied with any passive dislikes of what is done amiss by your army. Their evills for want of your prohibition will become your guilt, which I beseech your Lordship seriously to consider. I hope God hath given your Excellency this command for such a time as this. But if you altogither hold your peace—and a General's words cannot be other then commands—at this time, then shall there enlargement and deliverance arise from another place." *Draft.*

T. Lord Fairfax to the Marshall General, or his Deputy.

1648[-9], January 31.—Permit to Sir Robert Harley to go to his home in Westminster and to reside there. *Copy.*

The Same to the Same.

1648[-9], February 12—Warrant to set Colonel Harley, Mr. Gerven and Mr. Vaughan at liberty. *Copy.*

John Packer.

1648[-9]—An account of the life of John Packer, sometime secretary to the Earl of Somerset and the Duke of Buckingham and a clerk of the privy seal so long as that remained an office. He was born at Twickenham in 1572 and died on February, 9th, 1649, and was buried at Saint Margaret's Church, Westminster.

Major Thomas Blayny to Major Robert Harley.

1648[-9], February 16—Receipt for 3,911*l.* to be applied towards disbanding supernumeraries.

The Earl of Westmorland to his kinsman, Sir Robert Harley.

1648[-9], March 8. Mer[eworth ?]—"I thank you abundantly for your candles. In truth they are of finer not kittchen stuff, and I cannot better set a valuation on them that that I should far outbidd him that bought Epictetus'; for his only could satisfy the sence, yours the mind. I have noe more but that I must not forget even to tel you that I think myself happy in the conversation of both your sonnes; wherefore pray encourage them to afford it me as often as their other occations will permit." *Signet.*

Samuel Shilton to Sir Robert Harley, in Tothill Street, Westminster.

1649, April 14—Asking him to pay 42*l.* for twenty-one months contribution charged upon Brampton, as otherwise they would have horses sent upon the place, there being five hundred horse come into the county. *Signet.*

Sir R. H[arley] to Sir William Waller, at Windsor Castle.

1649, May 11. Westminster—"I present this herein closed to your censure, which I think may be some degree of comfort to you. I hope it will be none of discontent. It is a duty which these sad dayes call for, that we should help to lesse one another's burden especially when we can say we suffer not as evil doers." I beseech you to commend my service to Sir William Lewes, Sir John Clotworthy, Major General Brown, and Commissary Copley. *Draft.*

Sir William Waller to his uncle, Sir Robert Harley, in London.

1649, June 21. Windsor Castle—"I am ashamed to thinke how backward I have been to acknowledge your kinde remembrance of me and must beg your pardon for itt. I really intended to have written to you againe, by the next opportunity, but to tell the truth and shame the devill, I forgot itt, and in that forgott myself. All the charity I beg from you is, that you will be assured, however my memory may be false, my heart is and shall be true to you. I see by your inclosed, you are in very good company when you are allone. I wish I may edify by the good example. Itt is the chymistry of a true christian to extract good spirits out of the evills of this world. The Lord sanctify his hand to us all, and teach us to learne righteousness out of his judgments. I desire these lines may present the tender of my most affectionat service to your self and your noble sons."

John Styles to Colonel Edward Harley.

1649, June 30. London—On private affairs. *Signet.*

Sir Robert Harley to his son, Colonel Edward Harley.

1649, July 10. Westminster—On business.

The Same to the Same.

1649, July 13. Westminster—On business.

The Parliament.

1649, July 16—Order by the Committee of Parliament for removal of obstruction in the sale of lands belonging to Deans and Chapters, for the payment of 750*l.* to Colonel Birch. *Copy.*

Robert Blayney to Colonel Edward Harley.

1649, July 17—On business. *Signet.*

Major Robert Harley to his brother [Colonel Edward Harley].

1649, July 23. Wigmore—Asking him to assist Colonel Kyrle to raise 3,000*l.* on mortgage, and suggesting that Mr. Foxcraft "a great dealer in byshop's lands" might be able to do it.

SIR ROBERT HARLEY to his son, COLONEL EDWARD HARLEY, at Wigmore.

1649, July 28. Westminster—"I have but 6*l.* 5*s.* 6*d.* leaft nor know where to have supply but from that good hand of Providence." *Signet.*

COLONEL EDWARD CONWAY to his cousin, COLONEL EDWARD HARLEY.

1649, July 30. London—A complimentary letter. *Signet.*

SIR ROBERT HARLEY to his son, COLONEL [EDWARD] HARLEY, at Wigmore.

1649, July 30. Westminster—This comes by my cousin Robinson, who with her husband takes her journey to Shobdon. It will be well done if you can send me some venison. I know you will welcome the enclosed. He came this evening to see your sisters. *Signet.*

The SAME to the SAME.

1649, August 4. Westminster—Concerning a proposed sale of land at Brampton to Mr. Powell, for 1,000*l.*

WILLIAM COUSE to FABIAN PHILLIPS, at his house in Chancery Lane in Southampton Buildings.

1649, August 10. Shiffnal—On business. *Signet.*

SIR ROBERT HARLEY to his son, COLONEL EDWARD HARLEY.

1649, August 10. Westminster—In my last I wrote you I had but 6*d.* left, which I gave away yesterday at a fast—a private family. And though I do not remember that ever I gave so little on a like occasion, yet I never gave more, for it was all the money I had, and I know not where to be supplied unless it be from Thomas Burghe.

The SAME to the SAME.

[16]49, August 18. Westminster—On business.

WILLIAM KNIGHT to SIR ROBERT HARLEY, at his house at Tothill Street.

1649, August 26. East Ham—Asking for money due to him. *Signet.*

THOMAS SEABORNE, Mayor of Hereford, and others to SIR ROBERT HARLEY.

1649, August 27. Hereford—There are certain charitable gifts issuing out of the lands of the late Dean and Chapter of Hereford, which, as you know, are to be sold. We ask your assistance to obtain the continuation of these charitable gifts, that the pious intentions of former ages may not now be frustrated. *Signed. Signet.*

The Mayor and Aldermen of Hereford and others to the Trustees and Contractors for the sale of the lands of the Dean and Chapter.

[1649, August]—A certificate of the benefits accruing to the City of Hereford out of the lands belonging to the late Dean and Chapter:—

(1.) The Dean and Chapter gave two yearly doles of bread to the poor, in lieu of which, since the sequestration, the Committee gave 40*l.* a year to the City for the poor.

(2.) They were not assessed in respect of the property they held in the City, but they always allowed the City a fifth part of the contribution demanded, which fifth part the committee have paid since the sequestration up to the 25th March 1649, the arrears amounting to 43*l.* 5*s.* 3*d.*

(3.) They always paid 20*l.* a year to the schoolmaster and 10*l.* a year to the usher of the free school.

(4.) They paid yearly to the bailiff of the King's fee, the sum of 1*l.* 7*s.* 7*d.* as chief rents for property held in the City.

(5.) The collegiate vicars also paid yearly to the same bailiff the sum of 17*s.* 4*d.* for the same purpose.

(6.) The Dean and Chapter have maintained the fabric of the Cathedral church, and for that purpose two farms in Berkshire called Swallowfield and Shinglefield have been given up to them.

(7.) They have paid yearly to two sextons in corn and gown money the sum of 25*l.* for ringing sermon bells, keeping clocks, cleaning the church and seats, and other services.

(8.) By ordinance of Parliament of the 28th March 1646 there was allowed a sum for the maintenance of six godly ministers out of the revenues of the Dean and Chapter, three of whom were to preach by turns in the country where preaching ministers were wanting. *Signed. Enclosed in the preceding letter.*

John Rushworth to Sir Robert Harley.

1649, August 31—Enclosing a petition. *Signed. Signet.*

Henry Holcroft and others to the Trustees appointed for the sale of the Honours, Manors, and lands of the late King, Queen, and Prince.

1649, October 1—Order that all stewards, receivers, and bailiffs, should be continued in their places and should collect the rents and pay the same as directed. *Copy.*

Sir R. H[arley to the D[uke] of R[ichmond].

1649, October 16. Westminster—Returning a manuscript. *Draft.*

W. Pierrepoint to Sir Robert Harley, at his house in Tothill Street, Westminster.

1649, November 4—I thank you for your letter and the divine hymn enclosed. You choose the best part to fix your thoughts on eternity; and for the world you have your antidote, content. *Signet.*

SAMUEL SMITH to SIR ROBERT HARLEY, at his house in Tothill Street, Westminster.

1649, November 5. Hereford—The Mayor and Common Council have made our Governor, Doctor Harford, and Miles Hill, free of the city and intend to elect them members of the Common Council. Also there is some thought of choosing a new steward, and Major-General Harrison is spoken of. *Signet.*

J. SWYNFEN to SIR ROBERT HARLEY, at his house near the new Church in Westminster.

1649, November 10. Swynfen—Concerning a proposed marriage between Colonel Harley and Mistress Mitton a young lady with 1,000*l.* a year in land, and woods worth at least 10000*l.* *Signet.*

LADY ELIZABETH HOLLES to her cousin, COLONEL ROBERT HARLEY.

[16]49, November 23—On private affairs.

W. LOWE to SIR ROBERT HARLEY at his home in Tothill Street, Westminster.

1649, November 27. Hereford—Asking him to obtain Mr. Woodroffe's office at the minster for him.

DANIEL GREENWOOD to SIR ROBERT HARLEY.

1649, December 21. Brasenose College—Asking him to deliver up to Mr. Samuel Bruen the Bursar of the College, the book of the College Statutes.

UNTON CROOKE, THOMAS COKAINE and WILLIAM CARELES to [THOMAS] DAVIES, Deputy Steward of the Manor of Kingsland.

1649, December 25—Order to produce to them, the Commissioners appointed by the trustees [for the sale of the Honours Manors and lands of the late King, Queen and Prince] now sitting at Kingsland, the Court Rolls of the Manor of Kingsland. *Copy.*

BRASENOSE COLLEGE.

1649, December 27—Acknowledgment by Samuel Bruen of the receipt from Sir R. Harley of the book of Statutes belonging to Brasenose College. *Endorsed on a letter from Samuel Radclif to Sir Robert Harley, dated June* 21, 1641, *sending him up the statutes.*

SIR ROBERT HARLEY to WILLIAM PIERREPOINT, at Thoresby.

1649[–50], January 22. Westminster—Thanking him for his good wishes.

THOMAS HARLEY to his father, SIR ROBERT HARLEY.

1649[–50], February 7. Oxford—"The engagement was tendered yesterday at All Soules, there being four visitors present for that purpose. Seven of the fellows subscribed, three desired further time, myselfe and one other refused itt. They returned up an account of it to the Committee—as I hear—this day. So that, Sir, if that prove the issue, it will not much trouble mee to loose a fellowship while, in the meane time, I keepe a good conscience, which is the best companion." *Signet.*

SAMUEL SHILTON to SIR ROBERT HARLEY.

[16]49[–50], March 9. Salop—I am now at Salop making some provision for your coming down. I have laid in twenty barrells of beer and seven tons of coal, and I am now preparing the garden. The Colonel thinks it will be well to begin to pale some part of Brampton Park this autumn.

SAMUEL RADCLIF to SIR ROBERT HARLEY.

1649[–50], March 13. Brasenose College—I met this month with that which I have earnestly desired for many years, namely Mr. Peacock's visitation in the sickness before his death, and throughout it. Therein I find him mentioning your sending your servant to him with *aurum potabile* and a book in commendation of it.

I am asked by the Committee who are here for reforming Oxford, for our college statutes. I delivered them to you at the beginning of the present Parliament and have your receipt for them. A word from you to Sir Nathaniel Brent or Mr. Prynne or any other of our visitors, would satisfy them. *Signet.*

W. PIERREPOINT to SIR ROBERT HARLEY at his house in Tothill Street, Westminster.

1649[–50], March 16—In the middle of April I shall attend upon you in London. My being accustomed to take physic every spring enforces me to continue that course, and I desire the company of my physician who is acquainted with my body. The poor house I live in, the best now left me, and I thank God I have it, requires my absence that it may be put in repair. *Signet.*

COLONEL EDWARD HARLEY to his father [SIR ROBERT HARLEY].

1649[–50], March 18. Wigmore—My frequent indispositions have caused my strength to "confirme" very slowly. I am troubled to hear your pains continue. I hoped for strength to wait upon you from London but I fear that I shall not in any short while be fit for such a journey.

WILLIAM LOWE to COLONEL HARLEY.

1649 [–50], March 21. Hereford—I thank you for this book. I cannot but approve of it, finding nothing in it that forbids us to endeavour the common good of the people of England, or to live quietly in our callings under this present Government.

Captain Samuel Birch.

1848, May 15, to 1650, April 2.—"A true and perfect account of the receipts and disbursements of Captaine Samuel Birch in relation to himselfe and company with their charge upon the countrey, marchings, freequarter, etc. since their last raysings. May 15, 1648. As followeth:

May 15. After much moneys spent and paines taken in raysing men, preparing armes, engageing officers, etc. haveing received the second orders from the Committee of our countrey to march, I delivered out
18. armes and march't my men from Manchester to Worsley.
19. From thence to Houghton where wee quartered—all upon free quarter from the first day—till Munday,
22. which day wee march't to Wigan by the Com-
June 2. mittee's order; and there wee quartered till wee march't away per order, June 2d, to Euxton Burgh where wee stayd till Lord's day in the
4. afternoone, at which time wee removed to
5. Leyland; wee stayd but one night, the next day
7. wee marcht to Preston. We march't by Quartermaster Pigotte's order to Wood Plumpton, where wee stayd and passed our muster upon Haworth Moore and returned into our quarters until Thurs-
15. day, which day wee advanc't by order to Garstang and from thence to Lancaster in extreame foul weather. Free quarter all.
16. I received money according to my muster on Haworth Moore, viz.:

	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Three weekes pay for:						
Captain, 7s 6d per diem - -	07	17	06			
Lieutenant, 4s per diem - -	04	04	00			
Enseigne, 3s per diem - -	03	03	00			
Two Sergeants, 3s per diem -	03	03	00	119	03	06
Two Drums, 2s per diem - -	02	02	00			
Four Corporalls, 4s per diem - -	04	04	00			
135 private souldiers, 8d per diem -	94	10	00			

This same day wee march't away from Lancaster to Kirkby Lansdale after the randesvouez upon Halton Moore. Wee stayd at Kirkby Lansdale
19. till Munday, and then marched towards Beetham
20. House which was surrendered to us the second day, after wee had quartered in the field all night. This day wee marched from thence—all but five men which came to us the next day—to Kendall. Still we receive free quarter.

June 23. This day wee advanct from Kendall to Shapp and send in to the countrey for provisions to meet us.

24. From Shapp wee advanc't to Penrith and the next

25. day being Lord's day wee march't towards Carlisle to Heskett Moore, where wee met Major Generall Lambert's forces, and then march't to Warwicke Bridge in extreamity of wet and foul wether and want of provisions etc. Wee quartered on a barne on the further side Warwicke Bridge after the enemy was beaten off from the bridge and divers prisoners taken. A miserable time for the souldiers as I have seene at any time.

26. Wee advanc't towards the borders of Scotland, rendevouzd in Guillsland, sent out a party out of every company as forlorne, with my lieutenant, which advanct to Stanwick Banke on the other side Carlisle, beate the enemy out of their entrenchments, out of the towne and church into the city: wee kept their hould and kept guard at the wood bridge foote. Wee quartered in Bramstocke—a small village—this night. The souldiers are in great want of victualls, noe drinke at all but water, either for officer or souldier; wee sent out for provisions.

27. We march't backe to Warwicke Bridge where wee kept guard.

July 4. Wee advanc't from our guards to Warwicke Bridge, four miles on the other side Carlisle. Quartered in the field, noe provisions.

5. Next day wee march't to Bolton. I quartered with my company in Sandall and sent for provisions out of the countrey, all free.

7. Wee march't betweene Cauld Becke and Sowerby. Quartered in the field.

8. Wee march't from the same place to Penrith, much rayne hath beene. Such a wet time this time of

9. the yeare hath not beene seene in the memory of man: the souldiers in great want of provisions. Wee are every day at exercise in ordinary. Wee quarter free in the towne and send for provisions

13. into the countrey, but at third or fourth part of 4*d.* a day for a souldier hath not come in.

14. At night the whole body of both Scotts and English marching against us, wee drew out of Penrith and march't all night and the next morning—extremely wet as it was—wee came about eleven a clocke to Appleby; wee guarded the magazine which was extreamly troublesome. Wee had some provisions

16. out of the countrey whilst wee stayed here.

17. The Scotts fell upon us before wee were aware, our horse being—the greatest part—absent; drave up our horse guards within our centryes and quarters of foote, drew out partyes which kept them off from us till night, and made divers works, but by day breake in the morning wee march't away. I

had the reareguard of the foote with Major Greenlishe.

July 18. In the skirmish some four or five of our kild, some wounded. Wee came safe in our retreit to Kirkby Steeven, from thence to Bowes. Wee quarterd upon the bare walls of a cottage after long fasting.

19. Wee march't to Barnard Castle, and quarter'd in Wharleton. Wee received provisions from Langleydale, Huwicke etc. to assist our quarters. Kept a small guard in Barnard Castle.

24. Wee randesvouzd upon Girlington Moore, returned to Wharleton.

August 2. Upon this day wee left Wharleton, where wee lay upon free quarters twelve dayes, and march't to Gatterley Moore and from thence to Richmond. Quartered in towne.

3. Wee march't to Ripon, quartered there, had assistant quarters.

7. Wee advanc't from Rippon to Knaresbrough had assistant quarters from Langthorpe, and Hunburton *cum* Millre &c. All this while wee have beene without money or any other accommodation saving quarter which sometimes was good, sometimes exceeding bad; only part of the provisions came in in money which served the souldiers to supply some extraordinaryes of small valew.

13. Lord's day wee quarter stil lin Knaresbrough. The valews of provision was set downe by some officers appointed for that purpose betweene the souldier and the countrey. The souldier ordered to receive 6^{d} valew in provision every day: but could not but seldome obteine so much.

14. Wee advanct from Knaresborough to Oatly, and thence, where wee had lien upon free quarter and

14. had assistant quarters seventy dayes, to Carleton neere Skipton; quartered upon bare walls one

15. night; wee advanct to Downham where wee quartered—of such as the enemy had left us—in towne, and from thence wee march't to Stanyhurst find-

16. ing still the quarters so bare as an enemy could leave them that had quartered still every night before us, till wee came to Preston. This night wee quartered in a field close by Stanihurst Hall.

17. This day wee march't to Preston, had the great dispute with the Scotts and English armie, see the account on the file. I had the charge of our Lancashire brigades forlorne; my lieutenant had the charge of my division of musquettiers, my ensigne, by command of General Ashton, lead the pykes and collours up against the defendantes on Rible Bridge and beat them off; allmost all my officers markt, none killed, divers souldiers shott and hurt, some very dangerously, most performed very well. Blessed bee God for his great deliverance.

August 18. After my company had quarter'd that night in the field, the next morning by Lieutenant-General Cromwell's order wee drew into the towne to guard the 3,000 prisoners, all the magazine, and a great store of provisions which wee tooke from the enemy, our Lancashire forces being only left for that, whilst Lieutenant-General Cromwell pursued the enemy: and notwithstanding Monroe's and Sir Sir Thomas Tildisley's threatnings, who with nine or ten thousand men lay at Lancaster, God assisted us to secure all. Wee lay there upon free quarter
23. till this day, at which time wee removed into the field countrey, not farr from the sea side, for five
29. dayes, and then wee returned to Preston where wee stayed this night.

30. Wee marched to Blackburne, quartered there one
31. night; the next day wee went to quarter in Pleasington and Witton: I quartered some small time at Blackburne at John Sharples, and in Preston, I either was at home, or paid my
September 18. quarters. In this posture wee stayd till this day, all free quarter: which day we advanc't my company by order to Waddington. Received three weekes pay 15th instant and payd it my company five dayes after. I thanke God my company stayd and went with mee upon the service when most of the rest runne away after they had received their money. I say a three weekes pay just according to the last muster received and payd the officers and souldiers:—

Captain 7s 6d per diem - -	007 17 06	119 03 06
Lieutenant 4s per diem - -	004 04 00	
Ensigne 3s per diem -	003 03 00	
Two Sergeanttes 3s per diem - -	003 03 00	
Two Drums 2s per diem - - -	002 02 00	
Four Corporalls 4s per diem - -	004 04 00	
135 private souldiers per diem - -	094 10 00	

19. From Waddington wee marcht to Long Preston where wee stayd two nights, still upon free
21. quarter; after which wee advanc't from thence to
22. Gigleswicke, stayed one night, and from thence to Thornton and Wastus, stayd one night.

23. From thence wee advanc't this morning to Kirkby-Lunsdale, where wee stayd in miserable quarters two nights, the enemy haveing left noe provision behind him.

25. Wee march't this day to Kendall, where wee stayd only two nights, wee all passe upon every third nights duty.

September 27. Wee advanc't this day to Shapp, my company still continueing above a hundred and twenty men notwithstanding the mutiny and running away of so many. Free quarter still.

28. Wee marcht this morning to Penrith, the enemy not appearing but in scoutes only.

29. Wee continued our advance towards the enemy this day as farr as Cauldbecke, where wee quarter'd in a barne, quite without victualls or any reliefe after

30. a hard march. Before day or breakfast wee marcht this morning away towards Cockermouth, which the enemy had close besieged, but hearing of our comeing, went hastily away, leaving their great gunne and some victualls behind, which the garison seised. Wee had our quarters in towne. This night wee had the unhappy losse of three horse, collours, and divers horses and men, out of our Lancashire regiment, by the enemyes falling into our horse and foote quarters at Talantyre.

October 1. Wee quarter still free and bare in Cockermouth towne. Wee have had at divers times assistant or provisionall quarters assigned us, where wee have quartered so narrow, that no possibility of provisions was to bee had from the quarters wee possess't, and where meate nor any kind of provision was to bee had or not to the valew assigned us. Wee received the residue in money which the

3. souldier either found himselfe victualls withall or at least drinke, where meate was not to bee had; all which is but to be accounted as part of our freequarter, the receipts and disbursements with the valews are as followeth, since the beginning of our march, till this present day."

Then follow the particulars of the receipts and disbursements down to October 7, the receipts amounting to 89*l.* 8*s.* and the disbursements to 89*l.* 3*s.* 7*d.*

"This is the account of the receipts and disbursements of what in money hath beene received from our provisionall quarters; the remainder was received in provisions, was at the same times distributed for the sustenance of the souldiers in their too narrow quarters, only very many times wee received not halfe, nor scarce any sometimes for the warrants that were sent out. This is before this day.

[October] 4. Wee quarter still in Cockermouth upon free quarter.

5. Wee marcht from Cockermouth to Tarpenney where wee quartered—miserably for want of victualls—two nights and one day, whilst the enemy came to treaty with us.

7. Wee marcht from Tarpenny to Cauldbecke, our ould and greivous quarters, still miserably distrest for want of meat.

8. And from thence to Penrith, where wee pass't upon duty.

9. Wee all advanc't for Appleby, had the castle surrendered to us, of which I was made governor and my whole company kept it. Hitherto wee

have paid nothing in the countrey for meate or drinke, and now for theese few dayes wee make a
October 13. shift to live upon the ill condicioned victualls in
15. the castle for about six or seven dayes and then had 6*d. per diem* allowed them out of severall partes in Westmorland by order from Lieutenant Colonel Jackson, adjutant-generall, according to the appointment of Major-General Ashton as may appeare in punctuall particulars in the lists and in the booke of the garison of Appleby, pages 1, 2, 3,
November 4. 4, etc. until Saturday, November 4. At which time after the whole company had punctually paid their quarters in towne and pass't upon constant and hard duty in the eastle, they receive a month's pay from Captain West out of the 4,700*l.*, I say out of the 4,700*l.*, raysed or that should have beene raysed out of the sequestracions in the county of Westmorland."

5. At this time also "I disposed into quarters the one halfe of my company of which as many as were willing had licence to goe home, which was the
6. greatest part of them ; the rest went to quarters to Egremont. The other halfe of officers and souldiers were by Major-General Ashton's command appointed to stay in the Castle of Appleby till further order, and to receive 6*d. per diem* and proportionable still which is very meane allowance, all things being so extreame deare. And in this posture they continued, sometimes passing upon every fourth night's duty sometimes upon every third dayes duty and sometimes oftener. They payd their quarters punctually and had their six pence *per diem* punctually allowed, whilst the other half of the company were part in quarters
December 10. and part at home, untill the 10th day of December 1648, at which time, by order, I left the castle to be demolished. I had also some other officers whilst I had the Castle, and my whole company in it, viz. a surgeon, a marshall and his two men, a brewer, a cooke or farrier, and a quartermaster, which did not properly belong to a foote company. When I sent away the half of my company, I reserved only a surgeon and a quartermaster, besides ensigne, one sergeant and four corporalls and one drum. The accounts of my receipts and disbursements in relation to the said castle, are punctually and at large in the booke and lists thereunto belonging.

That part of my company with me marcht very speedily towards Lancashire, and had in many places, free quarter: the rest went to St. Bees, to Burrowdale, and Irton, into quarter.

11. I staid all Lords day at Appleby, and this day went towards Kirkby Lansdale and so to Lancaster. From the 9th day of October till the 6th day of January next, I had noe free quarter at all for

myselfe or horse. Wee disposed of some armes in Lancaster and so marched to Manchester.

January 5. I returned towards my company lying in Cumberland
6. and this night came to Mr. Irton's of Irton, my quarters, where now I beginne of free quarter, but my company, as many as have beene in quarters, have lien in part of St Bees parish, and in Burrowdale, and in Irton, about fifty men apeece, or evenly if not so many.

29. I marcht those two parts of my company that lay in St Bees and Irton to Mockergen, and the next
30. day to Cockermouth. Quarterd in Pap Castle and Bridekirke.

31. This day wee march't backe towards Westmorland as
February 1. farr as Keswicke, and this 1st of February to
2. Ambleside. Then wee advanc't this day and
3. quartered in Under Barrow, and this day wee came into Lancashire and quartered in the
4. Yealands where wee spent this Lords day and lay
5. still. The next morning marcht my company to Halton.

6. I marcht this day, the regiment through Lancaster, quartered my company in and about Ellell, but I lay at charges two dayes in Lancaster about our meeting and money.

8. I march't my company and quarterd this night in Barton.

9. March't this day and quartered in Blackburne, and
10. the next day quartered in our settled quarters in Rossendale. Wee received our 4,000*l.* out of Cumberland being a month's pay."

Notwithstanding my orders otherwise "my officers agreed with the grave and heads of the Forest at his and their earnest importunityes—in my absence —for a weekely allowance and to pay for our quarters. I went home. See the agreement and the reason of it under the grave's hand, with divers others. I received in six weekes and odd dayes the sum of twelve pounds for my selfe and my man and two horses, and a horse and a man of the adjutant's, Lieutenant General Jackson's, so long as hee stayd. And notwithstanding I was there but about five or six dayes I spent with my men and horses there about 9*l.* of it. None of my company demanded anything of his landlord for his absence from quarters unlesse they did joyntly agree and condition to doe it. Thus wee con-
, 1649. tinued upon free quarter till the 28th day of March,
March 28. on which day I marched them out of Rossendale in Blackburn hundred unto Bury and the parts adjacent where I quartered that one night. And
29. Thursday, betimes, I marched them to Manchester where wee lodged our collours, layd downe our armes, and disbanded. And there I received and payd eighteen dayes pay to my officers and

souldiers, being their part of 2,400*l.* graunted us by the parliament."

Sum total "received by mee and my souldiers in way of pay since the second raising of my company, viz.: May 15, 1648, till our late disbanding, March 29, 1649," was £768 8*s.*

After we had laid down our arms there yet remains due to us by order at London, 600*l.* and 244*l.* 04*s.* 02*d*, which should have been paid us, and was ordered us for this last summer's service.

December 21. "This day haveing received from Mr. Norres—viz.: by his order and assignation of bonds, Richard Twiford's 22*l.* and Richard Hoghton's 30*l.* and the rest in money—I payd my souldiers—their last—twenty dayes pay."

But because "of the distraction of the times and for that the late Lancashire brigade is looked on as not well affected to the present powers and proceedings, wee looke upon the other 800 and odd pounds yet remaining in arreare, together with the rest of our arreares—if things continue as they are—in a soart desperate. So that wee may account that which thus farr wee have received to bee the full account of what wee—as yet—can expect for our last yeares service, 1648.

March 20. So that at this present day—March 27 1650—wee may make up our full receipts to bee

The first three weekes pay from the Lancashire Committee -	119	03	06
The second three weekes pay from the Lancashire Committee -	119	03	06
The Westmorland money, twenty-eight dayes pay - -	153	06	00
The Cumberland money, a month's pay - - - - -	159	16	08
Of the 3,000*l.* graunted us by parliament, eighteen dayes - -	102	15	00
Of the 3,400*l.* from London also, twenty dayes pay - -	114	03	04
Summa totalis - - -	768	08	00

A perfect account of all souldiers inlisted under the command of Captaine Samuel Birch in the regiment of Collonel Raph Asheton junior in the county of Lancashire after the last disbanding January 15 1647. Entertain'd by authority of the committee of the said county and by ordinance of both houses of parliament of the 23 May 1648, and by the approval of the House of Commons May 16 1648, viz.; the time of their entertainment and continuance, with the time and reason of the discharge of such as left.

Time of Inlisting.	Souldiers' Names.	Time of Discharge.
May 17, 1648 or within four or five dayes of this time. But the most part before this day about six or seven dayes.	Lieutenant James Redich -	1648.
	Ensigne Adam Sydall.	
	Sergeant Henry Litherland.	
	Sergeant John Smith	
	Drum William Newton.	
	Drum Ed. Williamson -	Went off with licence. July 24, 1648.
	Corporall Robert Rigby.	
	Corporall James Andrew -	Went off with licence. August 30, 1648.
	Corporall George Chorlton	Runne away from his colours from Long Preston, September 20, 1648.
	Ed. Bayly.	
	Richard Fletcher.	
	John Didsbury.	
	Richard Linney - -	Runne away from his collours from Gigleswicke, September 21, 1648.
	James Birch.	
	William Worthington.	
	Raph Hunt - -	Runne away, August 17, 1648.
	James Holland.	
	Edmund Townly.	
	Nicholas Bowker.	
	John Birch major.	
	George Chorlton de Pitts -	Went off sicke, September 18, 1648.
	George Birch - -	Runne away from collours, September 20, 1648.
	Thomas Fletcher - -	June 17, 1648, runne away from Kirby Lansdale after fourteen dayes pay by him received. Came againe and run away againe, September 19, 1648.
	John Smethurst.	
	Thomas Birch.	
	Abraham Wood.	
	John Barlow.	
	John Sydall -	Overrune his collours, September 21, 1648.
	John Birch, junior.	
	George Chorlton, pudling Thomas Fletcher, wood -	Runne away once before with Tho. Fletcher junior. Runne from their collours, September 21, 1648.

Time of Inlisting.	Souldiers' Names.	Time of Discharge.
1648, May 17	Robert Worthington -	June 17, 1648. Runne away from Kirby.
	William Wood.	
	Alexander Bagnley.	
	John Wilshaw.	
	Richard Gregory - -	June 16, 1648. Went off sicke and after was dismist. September 20, 1648.
	John Kenion.	
	Raph Bexwicke.	
	Nathaniel Smith.	
	Henry Grundie.	
	John Barker.	
	Joseph Ashton.	
	Nathan Bentam.	
	Raph Andrew - -	Runne from his collours, September 20, 1648.
	Samuel Burton.	
	Thomas Mosse.	
	Alexander Barlow -	Turned off for mutiny, September 19, 1648.
	Cornelius Bexwicke.	
	Randle Percivall.	
	Samuel Gorton.	
	George Hulme.	
	Adam Bowker.	
	Alexander Percivall -	Went off at Preston fight, August 20 and his brother Thomas Percivall came in his roome.
	Robert Plat.	
	Robert Boardman, Gent de Armes.	
	Edward Bexwicke.	
	Francis Williamson.	
	Robert Sydall.	
	John Locke.	
	Richard Holt - -	Runne away from Appleby, November 1, 1648.
	James Clayton.	
	Marke Whitehead.	
	Peter Kirshall.	
	John Holt.	
	Edward Godward -	Runn from his collours, July 24, 1648.
	John Renshall.	
	John Townly.	
	William Brooke.	
	Randle Barker.	

Time of Inlisting.	Souldiers' Names.	Time of Discharge.
1648, May 17	John Bayly.	
	George Holland.	
	Samuel Hardie.	
	Richard Neild - -	Runn from his collours, second time. August 8, 1648.
	James Kirshall.	
	Henry Smith.	
	Francis Gorton.	
	Geo. Ouldam *in vice* Mat Travis.	Runn from his collours, July 24, 1648.
	Robert Abbott - -	Runn from his collours, July 17, 1648.
	Joseph Shepheard - -	Turned off for mutiny, August 22, 1648.
	Simeon Kirshall.	
	Jonathan Holt - -	Run from his collours, September 3, 1648.
	Edmund Smith.	
	John Thorpe - -	Run from his collours, July 26, 1648.
	William Bowker - -	Run from his collours, July 17, 1648.
	Isaac Boardman - -	Turned off for stealing, etc., November 29, 1648.
	Melchior Birch - -	Runn from his collours, August 20, 1648.
	John Birch - -	Went sicke from Kendall, 29 June 48.
	Robert Scott.	
	Richard Mather - -	Went off with licence, March 1, 1648.
	James Birch.	
	William Roberts - -	Run from his collours, September 14, 1648.
	James Smith.	
	Thomas Gardner.	
	Thomas Thropp.	
	George Percivall.	
	William Shacklocke.	
	James Parker - -	Run from his collours, September 21, 1648.
	John Smith.	
	James Read.	
	Peter Kempe.	
	John Clayton.	
	James Worthington.	
	William Hoghton - -	Runn from his collours, September 18, 1648, returned February 1, and stayd till the last.

Time of Inlisting.	Souldiers' Names.	Time of Discharge.
1648, May 17	John Hibert.	
	Roger Titherington.	
	Nicholas Hibert.	
	William Tonge.	
	George Worsencroft.	
	George Heape - -	Run from his collours, July 26, 1648. Returned, and run away againe, September 20, 1648.
	John Steevenson.	
	Richard Bower.	
	John Knot.	
	James Bordsley - -	Run from his collours, September 20, 1648.
	Ruben Dawson.	
	Richard Jackson.	
	Nathan Hibert.	
	Joseph Ouldam - -	Run from his collours, September 16, 1648.
	John Dison.	
	Nathaniel Wood.	
	John Hall - -	June 19, 1648. Went off with licence to Captaine Markland's troope.
	James Lees senior -	Run from his collours, July 24, 1648.
	George Andrew.	
	John Holland.	
	John Dawson.	
	James Lees - -	Run from his collours, September 20, 1648.
	William Holt.	
	James Clough.	
	James Worsencroft.	
	John Heape.	
	John Kirshall.	
	Miles Boardman - -	Run from his collours, July 26, 1648.
	John Andrew - -	Run from his collours, September 20, 1648.
	Zachary Chorlton - -	Went off with licence, September 18, 1648.
	John Worthington.	
	Captains man William Piers	Run from mee. October 8, 1648.
May 25	James Johnson - -	Run from his collours, August 15, 1648.
	Christopher Bradley - }	Run from their collours,
	William Mollineux - }	September 27, 1648.
	Evan Tobias.	

Time of Inlisting.	Souldiers' Names.	Time of Discharge.
1648, May 26	Richard Johnson - -	Run from his collours, August 29, 1648.
	Richard Deane.	
	Richard Prescott.	
	John Bagnley.	
June 26	James Williamson.	
	Thomas Layton.	
July 4	Arthur Cotterill - -	Run from his collours, September 1, 1648.
'3	William Bradshaw -	Turned off for stealing, November 29, 1648.
23	Thomas Taylor.	
August 4	Adam Hill - -	Run from his collours, August 20, 1648.
5	John Smith.	
8	George Brooke.	
20	Thomas Slade.	
	John Faulknor.	
	Abraham Crabtree.	
24	Robert Brocklesby -	All overrunne mee from Preston within ten dayes or twelve after inlisting, viz., September 2, 1648.
	Oliver Ducket - -	
	Thomas Bayly - -	
	Drum Sweeting - -	
August 27	Edward Atkinson.	
	Samuel Bowker.	
	Peter Scoales.	
	Thomas Steevenson.	
	Thomas Percivall in his brother's roome.	
	John Hulme.	
	Richard Banes.	
	Edward Lort.	
	Samuel Bullocke.	
	Edward Pendleton.	
	George Sydall.	
	Edward Garside.	
	Nicholas Slater.	
	George Travis.	
	John Berry.	
September 1	Robert Graver.	
	Isaac Hibert.	
	James Wilson.	
	John Birch minimus.	
1	Zacchæus Fieldhouse -	Went off with licence. October 4, 1648.
28	Daniel Whitehead.	
October 2	Roger Jones.	
20	James Dison.	
	James Taylor.	
	George Bradshaw - -	Runn away, for knavery, stealing, March 26, 1649.

Time of Inlisting.	Souldiers' Names.	Time of Discharge.
1648, October 20	Edward Travis.	
December 12	John Worsencroft.	
	Daniel Whittle.	
	James Blevin.	
	John Worrall.	
	Thomas Bowker.	
	Raph Tatlocke - -	Runn away for knavery, March 26, 1649.
	John Hunt.	
January 18	Simon Copeland - -	Was the Adjutant's man, had a passe home to Richmond, March 4, 1648.

VISCOUNT CONWAY and KILULTA to his nephew [COLONEL EDWARD HARLEY].

1650, April 9. Petworth—"I have received a letter from your brother, and a runlet of cydar and a letter from you, and two lamprey pies, for whitch I thanke you very mutch. I love the meat very well, and against the next yeare, I will tell you how you shall save allmost the one halfe in the baking of a lamprey. Make a round box of lattin or latton rather with a corner, about three intches high and eight in diameter. Bake the lamprey in that. The price of the box is eightteene pence or thereabout. It will last long and the lamprey is as good as in crust, but if it be carried so that it be shaked and that it be not very full of butter it will breake all the butter; but melt that butter againe and put it into the box to the lamprey, and it is as good as ever. My Lord Lumley hath a way, but I have not yet tried it, but he hath often at the end of the yeare when lamprey are cheape. He doth then bake ten or fiveteene lampreyes in a pot and they last him three or foure moneths after all lampreys are gone. Have I not thanked you well for your lamprey pies, told you how you may send me somme more; but a man doth ill to send a present if he be not assured of his thankfullnes that shall receive it, soe that what he hath returned in wordes serves rather to shew the receiver's good language then theire harts. If you yet desire to doe me a curtesy witch I am not likely to requite in a long time if ever, for I would be honest allthough I am poore, write to me every weeke the passages that are within your hearing. But let me give you one rule in writing of newes, never deliver your opinion upon the matter of fact, for that makes you of a party. It is good in an historian if he be a man of good judgment and doe it handsomly and short, wherein Polibius hath the advantage of all except Tacitus, but it may helpe a letter writer to a shrewd turne in any time if his letter be intercepted; but if he write onely the thing done and knowne to be so, all that he can suffer is his paines of writing."

SAMUEL SHILTON to SIR ROBERT HARLEY.

1650, April 13—On Tuesday last after my Colonel had gone out of Salop towards London I met the Governor's captain who told me he

had been commanded by his Colonel to wait upon Colonel Harley, who was now gone out of the town, and therefore he would now impart his message to me, which was to impart the Governor's service to you and the Colonel and to tell you that he would gladly serve you in anything he could, but that as for you coming to live at Salop, he must let you know that it was a divided place and that you being persons of eminence and not "comptiers with the present proceedings, the eyes of decentors might be upon you, and by that meanes occasion an apprehencion of strenghening the decentors by your inflewence upon them." Wherefore that place was not fit for your "settlement" and the Governor desired that you would think of some more fit place if you intended to leave London.

For my part I think things are likely to go far at Salop, so that I fear it will not be safe for you or that you would enjoy peace, though there is no cause to the contrary except your personal presence.

Sir Robert Harley to John Swinfen, at Swinfen.

1650, April 16. Westminster—"I should not have given you this second trouble concerning the businesse recommended to you for counsell in relation to a frend—I presume you conceave—of yours, being so much discouraged by the answer, had I not been invited to it by various providences wholly unexpected which I dare not but wait upon." The Lord has restored my son Harley to me from the grave. He came here last Saturday.

Viscount Conway and Kilulta to his nephew [Colonel Edward Harley].

1650, April 23—"I doe very mutch thanke you for the newes you writ to me. If it be noe trouble to you I pray doe me the favour to continue it to me. Somme men write easily, to others it is great paines; if you doe not doe it without labour, doe not disease your selfe, but you are comme of a kindred that could write with great facility. Your grandfather by your mother could have written with as great facility as he could reade, nay he could have written more in any hower then another could reade in a weeke, and yet he was noe sutch scribe as the five in Esdras who wrote two hundred bookes in forty dayes. Heere I live in great quiet, but if I should not have once a weeke somme thing to move my thoughts, they would grow as the water of the Mediterranean Sea in a long calme, stinking, and with a greene surface like a pond. I heare that there is one Mr. Faggard sent to Newgate. I know the man, the preatcher and the divine, and have done so a long time. There are many things that happen strangely in these times and this is one, that he should be a martir. Desire your father to be quiet and not to meddle with any side; there are many reasons for it, but I will give now but one and that in an apologue: the Marquis of Winchester, the foole, asked a certaine nobleman whether he was of the privy councell. He answered negatively, 'You are the wiser, sayd the Marquis,' noe more am I."

Sir Robert Harley to his kinsman, Colonel Mackworth, Governor of Shrewsbury.

1650, April 29. Westminster—"When I found the Lord's good providence in my sufferings in my estate, I presume not unknowne to

you, to have bin very great, which may be computed to little lesse then 20,000*l.* for the cause of the parliament, into which when I first engaged in parliament, I understood it on conscientious deliberacion to be the cause of God. I say, Sir, when that righteous providence had brought so strong a necessity upon me that I could not in this place supply bread to my children, pay publique contribucions, and redeeme my selfe —though *peditentim*—from under the great debt I had contracted for the publique, but with the consumpsion of my estate, and my house in Herefordsheere being burnt by the enemy, I could not bethinke myselfe of a place where to expect better accommodacion and more inoffensively then in your garrison of Shrewsbury, the knowledge whereof being —with my service—presented to you by my servant, Samuell Shilton, found soe faire acceptance that the message I received from you by him did much incourage me to accellerate my repaire to a place soe advantagious to me for meanes of livelyhood, and to put myselfe under the power of a gentlman from whom I had received such civillities as raised up in me a confidence of very courteous usage. Whereupon, a house was hired, and provisions layd in fitt for my subsisting there, and a bill set over my doore here. But I have lately received another message by my servant Shilton, convayed, as he lets me understand, by your captaine liftenant from yourselfe, intimating the unfittnesse of that place for my settlement. Now, because words, especially at the second or third deliveryng, are soe subject to mistakes, I beseech you, Sir, doe me the favour that I may candidely receive your meaning from yourselfe."

Colonel T. Mackworth to Sir Robert Harley.

1650, May 8. Shrewsbury—I have received yours of the 29th of April wherein you intimate your desire of coming to reside in this garrison. I acquainted your servant Shilton with my resolution of adhering to the present government. I am now entrusted by the Parliament for the security of this garrison, and in pursuance of some private instructions I have received I shall desire that if you be not fully "satisfied to the subscribeinge of the engagement," that you will at present rather forbear than retain your intention of coming to reside here. *Signed. Signet.*

Sir Walter Blount and Edward Pennell to Sir Robert Harley.

1650, June 10. Eastham—On business concerning a trust. *Signed. Signet.*

J. Duke of Richmond and Lenox to Sir Robert Harley, at Westminster.

1650, June 19. Cobham—The day after the date of Doctor Bathurst's employment was my necessary leaving the town. "Before it, that I saw my friends but seldome, the reason was mutuall to my sense; for haveing more than my share of jealousies, as appeared by the singular searching of the house I was in, enquiries after mee, and speeches of my dealeing with dangerous persons about dangerous matters, it must needs bee that from the abundant store from which all these came, a liberallitie would flow to others; and so least one not of the little ones should be offended, I supposed distance of all hands kept." *Signet.*

MAJOR WINTHROP to COLONEL HARLEY and MAJOR HARLEY.

1650, August 3. Leominster—"I have received some commands from the commissioners for the militia of this countye concerning yourselves, grownded as I beleive uppon some information of your disaffection to this present government, and therefore that I should send for you to my quarters att Leominster; but I shall only at present lett you know that they expect you should apeare before them at Herriford on Tusday." *Signet.*

Endorsed in Colonel Edward Harley's handwriting. "This letter was followed with soldiers who searched and read all my papers and carried mee prisoner with Mr. Clogie—from Wigmore to Hereford. My brother Robert was at the same time imprisoned long in Bristol Castle, and my brother Thomas was likewise imprisoned at Bristol."

COLONEL EDWARD HARLEY to his father, SIR ROBERT HARLEY, in Tothill Street, Westminster.

1650, August 5. Wigmore—On Saturday last Major Winthrop, Major to Colonel Harrison sent a letter to me and my brother requiring us to appear before the Commissioners of the Militia at Hereford. I answered him that my brother was not in the country—he had gone towards Bath—and that I came hither about business of your estate. This satisfied the Major who sent me word that I need not trouble to go to Hereford. The safety of my stay here being uncertain I intend to remove hence next week, but not directly to London as I am tied by promise to make Northamptonshire in my way. *Signet.*

SIR R. H[ARLEY] to his sons, MAJOR ROBERT HARLEY and THOMAS HARLEY, at Bristol.

1650, August 10. Westminster—"Hearing that you are both under confinement in Bristol, I have made my application to the Governor by outside favour. I hope this will obtaine leave to come to your hands, and that you may by the same way make known to me your condition, and upon what pretences you are restrained."

COLONEL EDWARD HARLEY.

1650, August 10—Pass from Wroth Rogers for Colonel Edward Harley with three servants and four horses to go from Hereford to London. *Signed.*

The SAME.

Same date—"I will by the help of God, if my life and health permit be at my father's house in Westminster, Saturday August 18, 1650, and continue there untill the first day of September next following."

Endorsed "Promise when I was a prisoner at Hereford. August 10, 1650. For ten yeares space after this I was not permitted any residence in Herefordshire."

SAMUEL SH[ILTON] to [SIR ROBERT HARLEY].

1650, September 28—Concerning the management of Kingsland Fair which had been claimed by Captain French as belonging to his manor.

THOMAS FROYSELL to SIR ROBERT HARLEY.

1650, October 3. Clun—"A young gentleman in our county—Mr. Sanford's youngest son of the Isle—who suck't popery from his mother's breast, is through God's mercy of late weaned from it. Whereupon his parents proscribe him quite out of their affections and their family, so that he must either return to them and their Babylon again or else be cast out upon the wide world. At this present time hee hath no subsistance, only a sister of his—a former convert—in my parish receives him." I beseech you to do something for him to win a soul out of hell. *Signet.*

SIR W. B[LOUNT] and EDWARD PENNELL to SIR ROBERT HARLEY.

1650, October 29—On business. *Signed. Signet.*

THOMAS DOUGHTY to COLONEL EDWARD HARLEY.

1650, December 31. Medborne—Excusing himself for having failed to keep an appointment. *Signet.*

COLONEL EDWARD HARLEY.

1650 —— "A catalogue of some of these many mercies my God hath vouchsafed unto mee.

(1.) In regard of my birth and education and relations. That my body was not deformed. That I was not deprived of the use of my reason. That my parents were noble, wise, and above all, godly. That they instructed mee in the feare of God, and never cockered mee in any evill but allwaies corrected it. That my God did mercifully continue my deare and blessed mother's life for severall yeares, to teach mee in my youth to remember my Creator. That my father, who was aged when I was very tender, was not cut of from mee and my brethren and sisters, but through the divine goodnes is yet in health to guide and instruct us in the knowledge of God. That the Lord gave my parents hearts to give mee liberall education, and inclined their affection to be very tender towards me. That my brethren and sisters and I love one another which, oh Lord, be pleased to continue as becomes Christians, specially to watch against the sins of each other.

(2.) Personall mercies.

Deliverance from the chincough and the measles when I was very young. From the small pox twice. From drowning when I fell into the water at Brompton, and was taken out by a dumb woman. From innumerable dangers to which my childhood was subject. That in Oxford I was not given up to the evills of that place. That God hath mercifully established mee from my youth, against the errors of the times. That in London I was not seduced by evill company. That in the warr, God gave mee any courage and esteem amongst men. That He preserved mee from falling into the hands of cruell men. That notwithstanding my Father's estate was wholly witheld for more than three yeares, yet God provided a gracious subsistence for us. That my life was preserved in many fights. That the shot in my shoulder, August 1, 1644, tooke not away my life, nor the use of my arme. That I was preserved from drowning at Uxbridge, June, 1646. That the infirmity which hath beene long upon mee, hath not disabled mee from a comfortable serving of God's providences. That my God delivered mee

when I prayed unto him in my journey to London, June 1647, from falling into the hands of the army, though I came through their quarters.

That my sicknes in London, August, 1647, was not the plague. My recovery out of it so gracious, and the very sickness a deliverance from other evills.

For God's deliverance to mee from Grimes at Glocester, April 1648. For preserving mee from being drowned in the Thames, 1648, when I was going into my Lord of Westmorland's pinnace.

That God very graciously preserved mee from the malice of many enemies, specially from the army in their accusation, and afterwards delivered mee from their restraint and preserved mee under it, December 7, 1648.

That my God never forsooke mee in any distress, but hath heard my prayers in all tryalls to direct, support, deliver mee.

That God mercifully denyed my requests concerning a wife, shewing mee greater favor in the denyall then if he had granted my desire. That, January 23, 1649, I fell sick not in a prison as others have done, but in Mr. Daire's house at Wigmore, where, having no house of my owne, I found great kindnes. That God in great mercy was pleased to deliver mee from that sore sickness, from severall relapses, even from the gates of death, specially that my Lord hath given mee a heart to make some sanctified use of it, to resolve through his merciful assistance to live more temperately and soberly in the use of all his good creatures, least I make provision for any lust of the flesh, or disable myself from that watchfullnes against temptation by the snares of the devill and the deceitfullnes of my owne heart, or that diligence and fervency of spirit wherewith I ought to serve the Lord, walking allwaies as before him in holines and righteousness to prize his ordinances more then formerly, being now restored to them after the enforced intermission of severall weekes.

Blessed be thou, O God of my salvation, who hast dealt bountifully with thy servant, oh let mee live that my waies be directed to keepe thy statutes! That thy Word may be hid in my heart that I may not sin against thee.

Blessed be the Lord who preserved mee from desiring to render unto Styles, according to his dealing with mee, and that my God hath graciously provided a meanes unexpectedly to deliver mee out of his danger.

Let my soule blesse the Lord, and all that is within mee praise his holy name. For happy is he whose hope is in the Lord his God who keepeth truth for ever.

For healing an infirmity which had beene upon mee a yeare and was very discomfortable.

For delivering from restraint at Hereford, August, 1650, unexpectedly, and without any prejudice to the peace of my conscience.

How precious are thy thoughts towards mee, oh God, how great is the summe of them; if I should count them they are more in number then the sand.

That God made mee by a dream an instrument to deliver my father's house from being robbed, the window being broken, October, 1650.

That the infirmity which my God doth chasten me with in great faithfullnes did not sorely trouble me when I was in the countrey; that I have any ease in regard of it to wait upon his providence, that specyally God doth begin to sanctifie it to me, and gives me in some measure a patient and quiet spirit to submitt unto his good hand. Blessed be his name."

THOMAS HARLEY to his father, SIR ROBERT HARLEY.

1650[-1], February 24. University College—I have removed to University College. A chamber was offered me there by one of the fellows, which invites me to tarry here a while. "About a month since there were some sent from the University into Scotland to wait upon the Lord General Cromwell with the seale, and to desire him to accept of the Chancellorship. They are now returned and have brought letters from him which do so handsomely *tantum non*, refuse it that the *Senatus Acad.* could scarce understand whither he hath received the humble tender of his handmaid; but only because they left the seale with him they inferre he doth." *Signet.*

E. EARL OF MANCHESTER to COLONEL HARLEY, at Sir Robert Harley's house in Tothill Street, Westminster.

1650[-1], March 22. Kimbolton—"These tymes have given us such experience off the alterations in our outward conditions as it appears to be a dutye as well as a wisdome to seeke for a possession of thatt which cannott be changed nor taken awaye, and if a countrye retirement gives a helpe to this, I shall thinke myselfe very happilye taughte. I shall heartely wishe these gentlemen whoe are nowe scattered from one another and deprived off other comforts may make use of Tertullian's advise. *Nec nos consternet quod segregati estis a mundo, si enim recogitemus ipsum magis mundum carcerem esse.*" *Signet.*

VISCOUNT CONWAY and KILULTA to his nephew, COLONEL EDWARD HARLEY.

1651, March 25—"I will advise you not to reade the booke that defends the lawfullnes for a man to beat his wife. It is a godly man that writes the booke, and he brags mutch of God and his asistance; but if he had bin asisted either by God or the Divell, he must have written a better booke." *Signet.*

THOMAS DOUGHTY to COLONEL EDWARD HARLEY, at Sir Robert Harley's house, or at Mr. Smith's the Apothecary in the Old Bailey.

1651, March 31—Thanking him for all his kindness and particularly for leaving "that great family of your friends at Apethorp, to be streightened with your inferiour friends at Medborne." *Signet.*

VISCOUNT CONWAY and KILULTA to his nephew, MAJOR ROBERT HARLEY.

1651, April 2. Petworth—"You doubt whether the great trouble of canon and morter peces in great weight can be answered by theire service, and you aske whether the Turkes' custome be not best. When the Turke doth make warre, he hath vast numbers of men, allthough he hath not shewed them in this warre with the Venetians, neither in Candia nor Dalmatia, and when he doth beseege a place he doth imploy very many canon, whitch may in a great parte be cast there one the place, but the use of canon is so necessary upon many occasions that an

army would be very lame that should want it. Let the army be never so great, it cannot take any little place whitch hath any strength in it, without great canon; but the principall is to have the artillery well furnished in every thing to whitch belongs great charge, whitch if it be well supplied with all things, and the wayes well considered by whitch you are to passe, and according to them, provision made, the canon cannot sticke. When the artillery is thus provided, all little places will not hinder the marching of the army, and there may be hope of taking of strong townes, of whitch there can be none without great guns, and amongst them there is none more necessary then mortar peeces. An army that hath noe canon or but small guns must make the warre in another manner then an army with artillery and store of it, will. The one can onely destroy a country in plundering or burning villages and houses: the other will not be forbid passage, and the townes taken will be kept and country about them or behind them. It is not for a poore state to make a great warre no more then for a poore man to have a great traine, but a great retinue will have most respect."

THOMAS HARLEY to his brother, COLONEL EDWARD HARLEY.

1651, April 3. University College, Oxford—On private affairs. *Latin.*

VISCOUNT CONWAY and KILULTA to his nephew [COLONEL EDWARD HARLEY].

1651, April 8. Petworth—I think the best book to read concerning optics is Aquilonius, but if you are not a mathematician you will not understand anything in him.

You say right that we err much in the reading of books; there never was any heresy begun but by a learned man. We ought to fear the loss of time in reading an ill book which teaches nothing. "What would one give for a day of life when he shall be at the point of death. The Lord Calfield was wont to say if God would take money for renewing of lives what a deale of money might he have; and he would wish that he had but power to renew life to the divines that seeme to be in love with heaven and advise all men to despise the world, he did beleave he should get a good living out of them."

I am writing out some receipts for you which are very good.

The SAME to the SAME.

1651, April 14—I am sorry Lord Houghton has been so hardly used by his father. "For ought I perceive by what you write of the mathematiques, you are like that man whose name I have forgotten but he was an acquaintance of Mr. Selden's and famous in the mathematiques, who had a desire to understand judiciall astrologie, in whitch learning he bought bookes, but then found he must first understand astronomy before he could understand astrology. He bought bookes for that, but then found that he must have knowledge in arithmetique, wherewith he began. If you are studious and your teacher skillfull you cannot reade an ill booke in the mathematiques, and without a due method you will never attaine to any knowledge in the optiques. I pray let me know whether you have read Grotius *De Jure Summarum Potestatum*

sivea Sacra; and Mr. Selden's new booke, *De Synedriis.* If you have not, I pray reade them and let me know what you thinke of them. I heare that my Lords Beauchamp and Bellasis are sent to the Tower. In Eclesiastes we are advised not to curse the king nor the ritch in our thought nor in our bedchamber by cause it will be reveled by a bird, that is, by strange meanes that one would thinke could not possibly be; in the Proverbs we are advised not to meddle with those that are given to change, there is no reason given, but it is by cause one plot in a hundred doth not succeede."

THOMAS HARLEY to his brother, COLONEL EDWARD HARLEY.

1651, April 15. University College—I cannot hear of any place here being void neither do I know the likelihood of any fellowship being empty, *nisi a præsepibus arcent ignavum pecus.*

I do not conceive you coming here will give any offence, especially if you acquaint Colonel Ingoldsby, and have a pass. For a chamber, if you like to be in this college, that which I have will be very convenient, and I can have another near, as I can procure you good accommodation in the town. *Signet.*

JOHN CHESTER to COLONEL EDWARD HARLEY, at Sir Robert Harley's house.

1651, May 12. Witherby—Inviting Mistress Harley and Mistress Dorothy to spend the whole summer with himself and his wife. *Signet.*

THOMAS HARLEY to his brother, COLONEL EDWARD HARLEY.

1651, May 13. University College, Oxford—We have several mathematicians here, amongst them Mr. Wallis, professor of geometry, knows how to draw a straight line from point to point. *Latin. Signet.*

VISCOUNT CONWAY and KILULTA to his nephew, COLONEL EDWARD HARLEY.

1651, June 3—"The Emperor Charles the Fiveth made his owne funerall be represented to him, but he that had lived all his life in controversies of religion had not yet lerned of St. Paul how to dye; but that is a harder worke then to give over thinking of the affaires of the world, whitch is allso a hard matter. Few men are pleased with themselves, and allthough all that they doe is only to please themselves yet it is with things that are without them not those within them. But to be pleased only with God, who falls not under any sence, is a harder matter, and as there are sensuall wayes of erring from God so there are spirituall, therefore is the saying '*In nomine Domini incipit omne malum.*' I pray be carefull of my booke; when you returne that you shall have another. The lime water hath done a great cure heere, and I purpose to take it myselfe. I am now making it."

The SAME to the SAME.

1651, June 10—"You are extreamely in the right that the most passions which trouble us are excited by our company which we keepe.

They make our pride, envy, revenge, idle talking, and drunkennes, and gluttony, but yet I will not be so mutch a Papist as to thinke that is good to be an hermite. It is not good for man to be alone, he is then worse than he is in the worst company. The happynes which Doctor Donne found out when his wife lay inne, to be a widower and his wife alive, was but poetike in respect of what my Lord Brooke, that is old Brooke, did wish for, to have a sonne living and a wife dead. Aske your father who hath had three wives, whether it be not true. I will shortly send you another booke and a very good one. I pray to commend my service and my love to your father and tell him that Sir Jhon Clotworthy behaves himselfe at Arundell as Cæsar did amongst the pirates that tooke him. They tell him sutch a day is appointed for a feast, 'then' sayth Sir Jhon 'I will feast'; but say they 'the Parliament hath appointed it.' 'I acknowledge noe Parliament' sayth Sir Jhon. The governor wisheth he would not talke so but that certainly he is a godly man; let Sir Jhon get to heaven by his godlynes." *Seal.*

The Same to the Same.

1651, June 17—My Lady Westmoreland has two receipts, the one the preparation of ox galls, the other a water of myrrh, both of them washes for the face. If you have so much credit with her, I pray get them of her and communicate them to me. They are very excellent and you will thank me for them.

I send you a book. The things marked with red are very excellent but that which I believe to be worth nothing is marked with "black lead." *Signet.*

The Same to the Same.

1651, June 24—"I cannot but laugh to thinke how if you had bin a cavalier you would have sworne and recommended my booke to the divell's grace" when your man returned without it. I thank you for the receipts you sent me. I hope you will send me those of the galls and myrrh. *Signet.*

The Same to the Same.

1651, June 30—Let me know how my Lord Houghton and his father are reconciled. I did not hear that Lady Vere was returned out of Nottinghamshire until now you tell me she is going into Warwickshire. *Signet.*

General Charles Fleetwood to all Officers and Soldiers of the Army.

1651, July 7. Somerset House—Pass for Colonel Harley to go into Norfolk and Northamptonshire, and to return within two months. *Signed. Signet.*

Thomas Doughty to Colonel Edward Harley.

1651, August 12. Medbourne—I am glad to hear you are so near Medbourne as to be within the possibility of an interview. My sister Clarke "now with us, is confident shee heard at Cambridge last weeke

some discourse among some of the doctors of a something that Colonel Harley should have written and printed lately, fearing lest it should occasion anything of trouble from the present times. I cannot fear any such thing. But if you have made any thing publique, do lay clayme at least to your knowledge of it." *Signet.*

THOMAS HARLEY to his brother, COLONEL EDWARD HARLEY.

1651, August 18. Conway—I hope you will expect nothing soft or peaceful from me in this rocky land. There is nothing yet to report. The suit is still "*sub judice.*" *Latin. Signet.*

CHARLES II. to MAJOR GENERAL MASSEY.

[1651], August 18. Stoke, three miles from Nantwich—"I am informed that by some mistake a clause is added to the letter from the presbiterie of the army to the ministers of Lancashire which may be very dangerous by breeding division amongst those that would owne me. For I heare they doe add to the letter a desire that consideration be taken of men's former malignancie. How dangerous this may be, and how inconsistent with a former expression of the letter of the kirk of Scotland owning this army, I leave to you to judge. Therefor I wold have you burne the letter and then I am sure it is lost and can doe no hurt.

Hast you to the army, where you will be of very great use the way we are to marche." *Signed.*

SIR WILLIAM WALLER to COLONEL EDWARD HARLEY, in London.

1651, September 1. Denbigh Castle—"I knew not into whose hands these presents may come, but if any shall be so impertinent to open them, I would have them know from the highest to the lowest, from catt to bobtaile, that I am, Sir, your most affectionat ever faithfull friend." *Signed. Signet.*

VISCOUNT CONWAY and KILULTA to [COLONEL EDWARD HARLEY].

1651, October 7. Petworth—I am glad you have returned to London. I have compared your receipt of the ox galls with mine and I find it to agree in every word. I believe you had it from me. I thank you for the receipt of the ale. I have drunk many a health and have had my health drunk, but I never received benefit by it till now. I send you a receipt to make mead which I believe is good. Let me know what becomes of my nephew Smith.

SIR WILLIAM LEWIS to his cousin, COLONEL EDWARD HARLEY.

1651, October 8. Arundel Castle—Enclosing a draft of a petition to the Council of State asking to be set at liberty. *Four pages. Signet.*

ROGER DRAKE, prisoner in the Tower to the HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE.

1651, October 10—Petition praying to be arraigned at the bar for divers grievous offences against the Commonwealth and confessing his guilt.

VISCOUNT CONWAY and KILULTA to his nephew [COLONEL EDWARD HARLEY].

1651, October 14—I am glad you are recovering of your sickness. I know one who cures the bloody flux with the powder of ginger, and holds it very secret. If you have any receipts for the making of "painting" either white or red I pray you let me have them. If you go that way I pray you enquire of Mr. Allen the "ruler of bookes in Greene Arbor without Newgate" and endeavour to learn the way the red ink is made which is made with vermilion. I have an excellent way of making it with "Brasile."

SIR WILLIAM LEWIS to his kinsman, COLONEL HARLEY.

1651, October 20. Arundel Castle—I should be very glad to know whether you have heard anything from Sir William Waller or Major General Browne about their address to the Council of State for their liberty, wherein I presume Mr. Copley will concur. I shall be glad to have your opinion about the draft of the petition for myself, which I sent you. *Signet.*

VISCOUNT CONWAY and KILULTA to his nephew [COLONEL EDWARD HARLEY].

1651, October 21—I thank you for the promise of the red ink. Colonel Grantham gave me some of the powder to stay a flux; he would not tell what it was, but I found out. He says it is also good for consumption. When I was last in London I gave some of the powder to Weston, the man of the Melon garden.

SIR WILLIAM LEWIS to his kinsman [COLONEL EDWARD HARLEY].

1651, October 24. Arundel Castle.—Concerning his petition which was to be presented as soon as Sir John Clotworthy's had succeeded.

VISCOUNT CONWAY and KILULTA to his nephew [COLONEL EDWARD HARLEY].

1651, October 28. Petworth—A long letter treating upon the specific gravity of water and the results of boiling it, and upon questions of giving quarter in times of war.

The SAME to the SAME.

[N.D.]—A long letter on religious topics.

SIR WILLIAM LEWIS to his kinsman, COLONEL HARLEY.

1651, November 3. Arundel Castle—Sending up his petition. *Signet.*

VISCOUNT CONWAY and KILULTA to his nephew [COLONEL EDWARD HARLEY].

1651, November 25—I am glad you are recovered. Let me know how you found the ginger operated with you, or whether you used other remedies. I see you have been talking with your physician about water and that you think that in the much boiling, the thinnest and finest parts of the water go away and leave only the most gross, unwholesome, and earthy parts. "There are not in the world greater fooles than philosophers nor greater knaves than physicians, unlesse it be the priests of this age, who are both."

VISCOUNT CONWAY and KILULTA to his brother [in-law], SIR ROBERT HARLEY.

1651, November 25. Petworth—On business. *Signet.*

SCOTLAND.

[1650–51]—A brief narrative of the transactions in Scotland before and after the coming of the English army, concluding with a account of the King's march southwards, and the battle of Worcester. *Forty-eight pages.*

CHRISTOPHER HARVEY to SIR ROBERT HARLEY, in Tothill Street Westminster.

1651[–2], January 24. Clifton—Concerning books bequeathed by Mr. Pierson.

MAJOR ROBERT HARLEY to his brother, COLONEL EDWARD HARLEY, at Wigmore in Herefordshire.

1652, June 12. Westminster—Concerning a proposal of marriage between Mr. Stanley and their sister [Brilliana]. *Signet.*

T. LORD FAIRFAX to COLONEL EDWARD HARLEY, in Tothill Street.

1652, July 17—Concerning some pictures which he proposed to buy from Mr. Geldorp. *Signet.*

—— to ROBERT HONYWOOD, at the Temple.

1652, August 1. The Hague—Giving news from Holland. *Part of the letter is in cypher.*

THOMAS BURGH to SIR ROBERT HARLEY, at his house in Ludlow.

1652, August 23. The Mint—When I was at Canterbury I spoke to Mr. Pollen who told me that it is now about two years since Sir Henry Palmer spoke to him about your Bible and then he gave him such an answer that he thinks Sir Henry will hardly trouble him more about it. *Signet.*

NATHANIEL STEPHENS to his daughter, KATHARINE STEPHENS.

1652, August 30. Easton—Concerning her engagement to Mr. Bromfield, telling her that if she refused this offer she could never expect so good a one again and that it was better to be "an ould man's darlinge than a younge man's wordlinge."

SIR ROBERT HARLEY to his daughter, BRILLIANA STANLEY, at Tattershall Castle.

1652, September 1. Ludlow—I rejoice to hear of your husband's and your health. If you have so much credit with your husband as to borrow a little of all the love you have given him, bestow it on me, and tell him I will send it to you again, with this charge, that you return it to him, though against your will, with a kiss. Kiss my little Lady Vere's hands from me. *Signet.*

NATHANIEL STEPHENS to his daughter, KATHARINE [STEPHENS].

1652, September 5. Easton Manor—Concerning the settlements to be made upon her proposed marriage.

JAMES STANLEY to his father [-in-law], SIR ROBERT HARLEY.

1652, September 13, Tattershall Lodge—It will be much to my satisfaction to wait upon you whenever I shall be near you. *Signet.*

B[RILLIANA] STANLEY to her father, SIR ROBERT HARLEY.

1652, September 13. Tattershall Lodge—I shall most readily obey your commands, especially those which you bid me ask of my husband, which was an injunction that I cannot but esteem as a great favour and shall therefore with much contentment continuously study to perform. *Signet.*

The SAME to the SAME.

[16]52, October 5. Tothill Street—We arrived here last Wednesday. My cousin Robinson tells me that my brother Harley is gone into Lincolnshire. My Lady commands me to present you with her love and service. *Signet.*

COLONEL EDWARD HARLEY to his sister, BRILLIANA STANLEY, at the Earl of Lincoln's house in Tothill Street, Westminster.

1652, October 11. Ludlow—I was coming to visit you when my father was taken with a fit of the stone. Last week I was very fearful for him, but he was more cheerful yesterday. Doctor Wright has been with him. I fear my father's disease is in the bladder, and there is suspicion of an ulcer there. I am making the lime drink for him.

Offer my service to my brother Stanley and when you are at leisure give my letter to Mr. Geldrop, who is now your neighbour. Present my service to my Lord and Lady Lincoln, to Mistress Vere, Mr. Knevet and Mr. Stanley.

Doctor Wright presents you his service. He wishes you, as soon as may be, a boy or a girl, which you like best; "and with as much ease as ladyes use to spit." *Signet.*

MARY, LADY VERE to her nephew, SIR ROBERT HARLEY, at Ludlow.

1652[–3], January 6—I am here still at Ragley, 'where, since it pleases God to deny me the comfort of my own house, I think myself happy to be with so good a friend as Lady Conway. I study now nothing but frugality, that I may come out of debt. *Signet.*

ONESIPHORUS ROODE to SIR ROBERT HARLEY, at Ludlow.

1652[–3], January 28—I saw a pamphlet some weeks since which inveighed much against one Sir Robert Harley, for countenancing the presbyterian ministers. I doubt not but that some friend was so kind as to convey it to you. *Signet.*

ELIZABETH, COUNTESS OF LINCOLN to SIR ROBERT HARLEY, at Ludlow.

1652[–3], February—My long sickness has been the cause that kept me from writing you thanks for the care you have taken of my son and daughter, which I think makes them negligent of coming to this place. I desire very much to see them if you will give them leave. If you would make us happy by taking the journey with them I shall provide you as warm a chamber as this place will afford. I beseech you accept my thanks for the fine pies I received from you, which are the best that ever I saw. *Signet.*

THOMAS HARLEY to his father, SIR ROBERT HARLEY.

1653, May 7. The *Lamb* in Grays Inn Lane—"My brother Stanley and my sister have come safe to Westminster. Every thing here is quiet and most do already more expect another change then mind that which hath been al. The names of those that are of the Councel which sits at White-hal are as I heare. The Generall, Major General Harrison, Lambert, Desborough, Colonel Bennet, Colonel Sydenham, Mr. Cary, Mr. Staple, Mr. Strickland, Sir Gilbert Pickering, Mr. Cornelius Holland. Major Galloway—it is said—was named but refused it, and I heare not who makes the twelfth.

The English fleet—a hundred saile and better—are gone towards the coast of Holland. Upon their approach De Witte retired with his ships into the harbors. There is a report that a peace wil be endeavored to be made with them, and to further it, the sequestration shal be taken off my Lord Craven's estate." *Signet.*

SIR JOHN WOLLASTON and others, Aldermen, Aldermens deputies, Common Councilmen, and Citizens, of London to the LORD GENERAL OLIVER CROMWELL and the COUNCIL of the ARMY.

1653, May—Petition praying that it might "seeme goode in your eyes that some effectual meanes may be found out and pursued for the meeting of the Parliament againe, that so in that time provision being made for setling [succ]essive representatives, which may carry on with effectual assurance those great ends that parliament hath constantly held forth, yee valiantly fought for, and to make provision for the army and navy, and other public and pressing affairs in the mean time, as hath been done. It would be a reviving to the sad and doubtful thoughts of

those that have fervently praied, and do continue looking up and waiting for such a settlement of our liberties as may assure us that our praiers and your endeavors have not bin in vaine in the Lord."

1653, May 20.—Order of the Council of State. *See Calendar of State Papers Domestic. Same date. Copy.*

THOMAS HARLEY to SIR ROBERT HARLEY.

1653, May 21. "At Mr. Talcot's, in Chancery Lane over against Lincoln Inne gate"—"I was very glad to heare by my brother Harley that—blessed be God—you were so wel after your physicke, and though I suppose, Sir, he wil acquaint you with what passeth here that is considerable, yet I shall beg leave to mention these particulars.

There are three more called to the Council, Mr. Moyer of the committee of Haberdashers-Hal, Colonel Philip Jones of South Wales, who is the General's agent for my Lord Worcester's estate in Monmouthshire, and Colonel Tomlinson who was about to make his protestation against their proceedings, as Colonel Okey and some other officers have. There hath bin some debate lately among them, in whom the supreame power now is. Some said, in the generall, others said, in the army, and a third part thought it was as yet dormant. A man at the Old Exchange was of the opinion of the first, as it seemes, for at exchange time he set up Cromwel's picture, and written under, God save the King, with some verses encomiastick.

They have put Mr. Denis Bond and Alderman Allen out of the committee for inspection of the Treasury, Colonel Tompson out of the committee of the Navy, and Colonel Harvey out of that of the Customs. The former tax is to be continued for six months longer, the letters to levy it are gone, or wil speedily goe into the country and do run 'the wil and require.' Yesterday there was a soldier shot in Holborn for killing a man there this weeke, who demanded toll of one that sold in the market.

There came to the Generall and Council this day, a representacion from many in London, declaring how much unsatisfied many were with the late proceedings, and therefore desiring that the late members might againe sit, and so dissolve themselfs in an orderly way, and give way for a representative. This was put on foot by the routed members and some Independent ministers. The Generall, it is reported, was not pleased with it but told them it was carried on by indirect means, and that the promoters and managers of it should be inquired after. My Lord Shandos, and my Lord Arundel of Warder were this day upon their triall in the Upper Bench upon the indictment for killing Mr. Compton, which had bin found at Kingston but manslaughter. They pleaded their peerage that so according to the statute they might not be put to read, but the house of peers being taken away, that plea would not be allowed; so they read, but the burning in the hand was respited til Monday."

COLONEL EDWARD HARLEY to his father, SIR ROBERT HARLEY, at Ludlow.

1653, May 21. Westminster—On business concerning arrears of rent and the raising of money for payment of debts and for providing the portions of the younger children. *Signet.*

The SAME to the SAME.

1653, May 26. Westminster—Lord Lincoln desires much the money for my sister's portion. If my cousin Cross, of Bristol has not given

you a satisfactory answer I beseech your direction that I may either try here to take up the money, or get a purchaser for Wegnall. The news is that the Dutch by a cheat have passed by our fleet in the North east sea, and are now vapouring in the Downs and upon Dover coast. *Signet.*

The Same to the Same.

1653, May 31. Westminster—It is uncertain where the fleets of England and Holland are, and "who shall govern us by land, astrology knowes not' *Signet.*

Viscount Conway and Kilulta to his nephew, Colonel Harley, in Tothill Street Westminster.

1653, June 4. Petworth—You tell me there is no news in London but I believe there is great store of news by this time. We heard the guns very plain but we have heard no particulars of the fight.

I am in treaty about taking a servant called Du Perrier, whom Doctor Osboldston has written about. I pray you do me the favour of going to Doctor Osboldston and inquiring about the man. Be very well assured what he is for honesty, civility, and temperance, and whether he has well considered what it is to serve and the subjection he puts himself to. If he be either proud or a drinker I had as good have the devil. *Signet.*

Thomas Harley to his father, Sir Robert Harley.

1653, June 4. Chancery Lane over against Lincoln's Inn Gate—"There hath bin a great fight at sea on Thursday and Friday last; the guns were heard hither both daies, especially yesterday al day til night. There is not any particular relation come yet, further then that upon Thursday General Deane began the fight with his squadron. He himselfe was killed, but no ship of the English lost. On the Dutch side the admiral of that squadron that ingaged was blowne up, and three other ships sunke. On Friday General Blake came in with sixteen more ships and the fight was that day in Margaret-Road, but the issue is not yet known; only this morning there were no ships there, so that it is supposed that the Dutch fleet are gone homeward and the English follow them." *Signet.*

Colonel Edward Harley to his father, Sir Robert Harley, at Ludlow.

1653, June 8. Westminster—Thursday, Friday and Saturday last there was a sore fight between the English and Dutch fleets. At the first encounter Admiral Deane was killed by a cannon shot. The Dutch are beaten from their coast to our own with almost twenty ships taken and sunk and above a thousand prisoners. Few shots were made in the fight which were not heard here. Lady Vere has come to London. *Signet.*

The Same to the Same.

1653, June 11. Westminster—I am much troubled that riding lately has so ill agreed with you. I have spoken about your condition

to Doctor Bathurst. He will send you larger directions, "but at present he desires you to forbear strong diuretics, and that you would endeavor not to drink after you are in bed. He saith nothing is more hurtful for you in regard of your paralitic inclination. He prescribes turpentine pills as very good, as well against the palsy as against the infirmity of your bladder. If it please you to command my sister to make it, I have great hopes the lime drink might be very helpful to you."

The fleet is yet upon the coast of Holland, triumphing. Some reports pass that we have landed or at least that we intend it, but I suppose the design of our fleet is especially to continue to block up the Flemish harbours.

The summons for the new Council—their proper name is yet *sub judice*—were issued three days since, but the declaration so much expected appears not. Herefordshire may hope to thrive, for besides two for ourselves, I hear that we are to furnish Worcestershire and Gloucestershire with the abilities of Mr. James and Mr. Holmes. *Signet.*

The Same to the Same.

1653, June 14. Westminster—On business. *Signet.*

Thomas Harley to his father, Sir Robert Harley at his house in Ludlow.

1653, June 14. Mr. Talcot's in Chancery Lane—On business. *Signet.*

John Wentworth to Sir Robert Harley, at Ludlow.

[16]53, June 14—On business. *Signet.*

Viscount Conway and Kilulta to his nephew [Colonel Edward Harley].

1653, June 21. Petworth—If your father suspect stone in the bladder he would do well to be searched, which may easily be done and without danger. He would also do well to take heed of violent medicines and of such as are given to break the stone, for they bring down violently gravel and cause very ill accidents and often death.

"To take and put away servants is a very great trouble and disquiet, but one is necessitated to it, for there are certaine humors in men that are very uneasy to be borne, which cannot be knowne but by familiar acquaintance, and the most men will recommend any body, and be very charitable in hoping that a man will mend his fault with another whitch he would not make triall of in himselfe. This Du Perrier writes a good hand and it is likely is a pretty scholler and he speakes frentch, which are qualityes would be of good use to me if he have temperance, diligence, and humility, which whosoever is destitute of is ill provided to serve. For him to procure a letter from Sir Theodore Mayerne is an unnecessary thing, for I am confident he would give it and that he doth not know him. The last yeare Doctor Coladon wrote to me recommending one to me, and Monsieur d'Espagne the Minister came with the letter and with him, yet was he a debauched fellow who had a —— that followed him out of France, with whom he lay every night. If you can get some further knowledge of this man, Du Perrier, it will doe well.

If you cannot, I pray aske what wage he will have. He did demand twenty powndes but it is to mutch by the one halfe unlesse he deserve very well. I pray beate the price with him, and if you can, let me heare by the next returne; if you cannot write so soone, if you leave your letter at Northumberland House with the porter, it will find a conveyance to me within a day or two."

COLONEL EDWARD HARLEY to his father, SIR ROBERT HARLEY, at Ludlow.

1653, June 25. Westminster—Doctor Bathurst has prescribed pills and an ointment for you, and an electuary to be taken an hour before you eat. I have desired my cousin Smith to send you a bottle of *Aqua Mirabilis* and another of syrup of "July flowers." *Signet.*

GEORGE GRIFFITHS to [COLONEL EDWARD HARLEY?].

1653, September 3. Charterhouse—I have no news except what the weekly pamphlets carry up and down, and these, I know, visit you of their own accord.

THOMAS [BURGH] to COLONEL EDWARD HARLEY, at Ludlow.

1653, October 4. The Mint—On business. *Signet.*

MAJOR ROBERT HARLEY to his father, SIR ROBERT HARLEY.

1653, November 2. Westminster—I presume my brother Harley will have acquainted you with our journey till we parted. Sir Horace Townshend having desired to speak with me about business, being near him, I intended it; but some business of Mr. Charles Stanley made me take London in my way "where I find Cromwell gives Harrison leave to make a party against him, yett most of the army expect when Cromwell will take on him the regal authority, and Peters preacheth daily in in defence of tithes." *Signet.*

THOMAS DOUGHTY to COLONEL EDWARD HARLEY, at Ludlow.

1653, November 23. Medbourne—On private affairs. *Signet.*

COLONEL EDWARD HARLEY to his father, SIR ROBERT HARLEY, at Ludlow.

1653[-4], February 7. Old Bailey, London — Your friend Mr. Hales sits as Judge in the Common Pleas. Tomorrow, Ash Wednesday, the Protector intends to ride in state into the City where he is to be feasted. The streets are railed in from Temple Bar, and the Companies in livery to attend him, as was used to the King. *Signet.*

The SAME to the SAME.

1653[-4], February 20. London—On business. *Signet.*

The SAME to the SAME.

1653[-4], February 28. London—"This day the monthly fast was kept at Mr. Nalton's church very sweetly, where you were affectionatly

remembered, and I hope you will find the benefit of it." Your business with Lord Lincoln would have been dispatched before this but the term business hindered my cousin Robinson's assistance, and another reason is that delay which you know "all men that are usurers will make, to consider, before they part with theyr money." *Signet.*

The Same to the Same.

1653[4], March 4. London—"The Dutch Ambassadors were received to land yesterday, and had audience this day in great state." *Signet.*

Sir Robert Harley to his son, Colonel Edward Harley, at Parkgate in Tavistock in Devonshire.

1654, May 9, Ludlow—I expect a messenger from you shortly. Present my humble service to the ladies. *Signed. Signet.*

Thomas Harley to his brother, Colonel Edward Harley.

1654, July 4. Ludlow—This is the first opportunity I have to wish you joy in that new relation wherein you have been set. I hope it will be but the beginning of much comfort and happiness to you.

The country is preparing for the election of Parliament men. Doctor Owen the Vice-chancellor is likely to be for the University of Oxford as the Lord Commissioner Whitlock is for the town. Mr. Aston, I think, will be for this place. *Signet.*

Sir Robert Harley to his son, Colonel Edward Harley, at Park Gate in Tavistock, in Devonshire.

1654, July 18. Ludlow—I understand that my "statute" is not accepted by Lady Button, and that nothing will satisfy her but the present settling of a jointure, which I know not how to do. Remember my love to your "deare heart." *Signed. Signet.*

Colonel Edward Harley to his father, Sir Robert Harley, at Ludlow.

[1654?]—I am glad to hear you have sent for a sedan which, I hope will be a means to bring you into the air. I hope my brother Robert will be here this week with the jointure.

J. Bramhall, Bishop of Derry to James Usher, Archbishop of Armagh.

1654, July 20.—"It playnly appeares that in the year 1646 by order from Rome above one hundred of the Romish clergy were sent into England, consisting of English, Scotch and Irish, who had beene educated in France, Italy, Germany, and Spaine, part of these within the severall schooles there appointed for their instructions. In each of these Romish nurseries these scholers were taught severall handycraft trades and callings, as their ingenuities were most binding, besides their orders or functions of that Church. They have many yet at Paris a-fitting up to be sent over, who twice in the weeke oppose one the

other, one pretending Presbytery, the other Independency, some Anabaptisme and other contrary tenents, dangerous and prejudicial to the Church of England and to all the reformed churches here abroad. But they are wisely preparing to prevent these designes, which I heartily wish were considered in England amongst the wise there. When the Romish orders do thus argue *Pro* and *Con*, there is appointed one of the learned of those convents to take notes and to judge, and as he finds their fancyes whether for Presbytery, Independency, Anabaptism, Atheism or for any new tenents, so accordingly they be to act and exercise their wits. Upon their permission when they be sent abroad, they enter their names in the convent registry, also their licenses, if a Fransiscan, if a Dominican, a Jesuit, or any other order, having several names there enterd in their licence in case of a discovery in one place, then to fly to another and there to change their names or habit. For an assurance of their constancy to their severall orders, they are to give monthly intelligence to their fraternityes of all affaires wherever they be dispersed, so that the English abroad know newes better than they at home. When they returne into England, they are taught their lesson to say—if any enquire from whence they come—that they were poore Christians formerly, that fled beyond sea for their religion's sake and are now returned with glad newes to enjoy their liberty of conscience. The hundred men that went over [in] 1646 were most of them souldiers in the Parliament's army, and were dayly to correspond with those Romanists in our late King's army that were lately at Oxford and pretended to fight for his Sacred Majesty, for at that time there were some Roman Catholicks who did not know the designe a-contriving against our Church and State of England. But the year following, 1647, many of these Romish orders who came over the year before, were in consultation together, knowing each other, and those of the King's party asking some why they tooke with the Parliament's side, and asking others whether they were bewitcht to turne Puritans, not knowing the designe, but at last secret buls and licenses being produced by those of the Parliament side, it was declared between them there was no better designe to confound the Church of England than by pretending liberty of conscience. It was argued then that England would be a second Holland, a commonwealth, and if so what shall become of the King. It was answered 'Would to God it were come to that point.' It was again replyd, 'yourselves have preacht so much against Rome and his Holynesse that Rome and the Romanists will be little the better for that change;' but it was answered 'you shall have Masse sufficient for 100000 in a short space, and the Governors never the wiser.' Then some of the mercifullest of the Romanists sayd 'this cannot be done unlesse the King dye'; upon which argument the Romish orders thus licensed and in the Parliament army wrote unto their severall convents but especially to the Sorbonists, whether it may be scrupled to make away our late godly King and his Majesty his son, our King and Master, who blessed be God, hath escaped their Romish snares layd for him. It was returned from the Sorbonists that it was lawful for Roman Catholicks to worke changes in governments for the mother churche's advancement, and chiefly in an heretical kingdom, and so lawfully make away the king. Thus much to my knowledge I have seene and heard since my leaving your Lordship which I thought very requisite to informe your Grace, for myselfe would hardly have credited these things had not mine eyes seen some evidence of the same. Let these things sleep within your gracious Lordship's breast and not awake but upon sure grounds, for this age can trust no man, there being so great fallacy

amongst men." *Copy. On the same paper is a copy of a letter in Latin from Pope Innocent XI. to Louis the Fourteenth, dated November* 13 [1685] *commending him for the revocation of the Edict of Nantes, of which he had been informed by the Duke d'Estrèes.*

SIR ROBERT HARLEY to his son, COLONEL EDWARD HARLEY, at the Sign of the Bear, in Oxford.

1654[–5], January 31. Ludlow—Enquiring after his health and asking him to bring Doctor Johnson with him from Worcester. *Signed. Signet.*

MAJOR ROBERT HARLEY to his brother, COLONEL EDWARD HARLEY, at Ludlow.

1654[–5], February 20. London—On private affairs.

MATTHEW MARTIN to COLONEL EDWARD HARLEY.

1654[–5], February 22. Oxford—Concerning Mr. Fenton, "a studious man and a constant preacher." *Signet.*

RALPH FENTON to COLONEL HARLEY, at Ludlow.

1655, June 2. Gran-pole. Oxford—I hope to be at Kingston this week.

THOMAS DOUGHTY to [COLONEL EDWARD HARLEY].

1655, June 11. Melbourne—Congratulating him on his marriage and on the birth of his sister Stanley's child.

COLONEL EDWARD HARLEY, THOMAS HARLEY, and ROBERT TOMBES to the COMMISSIONERS for approving of Public Preachers.

1655, September 4—Concerning Mr. Delamaine, of whose repentance for his past miscarriages in doctrine and practice they were not satisfied. *Copy.*

F. VISCOUNTESS CONWAY to her nephew, COLONEL EDWARD HARLEY.

1655, November 1—I am very sorry to hear of your indisposition for I know what the family would suffer in your absence. "I cannot but looke on that love you speake of with much greef. I knew he lovde you very affecsinatlly and did much rejoys to heer of your good fortune and that you have so sweet a companyon." I fear this moist weather is prejudicial to your father's health. *Signet.*

GEORGE LAWSON to COLONEL HARLEY.

1655[–6], January 29—Concerning a controversy between himself and Mr. Baxter. *Signet.*

GEORGE LAWSON to COLONEL HARLEY.

1655[-6], February 10. Monmouth.—Concerning Doctor Bayley's "popish book." *Signet.*

ROBERT HARLEY to his brother [COLONEL EDWARD HARLEY].

1656, April 6. Bucknill.—Informing him of summons which were being circulated in Herefordshire to prevent his election.

HEREFORDSHIRE.

1656, August 20.—"Be it remembered that uppon the 20th day of August 1656 at the election of knights to serve in parliament for the County of Hereford—in Lugg meadow—the writt being read and the persons—that stood for it—being named by the High Sheriff and cryed up promiscuously, the electors were directed by the High Sheriff to divide themselves into two companys, to the end that he might take view of them and judg which should be the greater company. Those that gave thir voyces for Colonel Harley, Mr. Scudamore, and Mr. Read, drew off from the place where the writt was read—a little distance—but not out of the same ground, but the Sheriff staying where he was and some persons that voted for Major General Berry, Colonel James, and Captain Mason, staying there and encompasheing the Sheriff, cryed of the said persons names, wheruppon the Sheriff said he heard none but voted for those last-named. Weruppon Mr. Gregory—a freeholder of the country—rodd in to the High Sheriff—before he had declared any one to be elected—and in the name of himselfe and of the rest of the freeholders and electors of the county, desiered the pole, and tould him that the greater parte of the electors were withdrawen into another company according to his direction: whereuppon the said High Sheriff asked Mr. Gregory on whose behalfe or for whom he demanded it, and the said Mr. Gregory answered, for Colonel Harley, Mr. Scudamore and Mr. Read, and againe desiered it as before. And immediately after Colonel Harley came up and demanded the poll and was theruppon declared to be elected notwithstanding that the company about the Sherriff did not vote for him, but those that were withdrawen did. And afterwards Colonel Harley demanded the poll for Mr. Read as against Captain Mason, and for Mr. Scudamore as against Major General Berry. And the said Mr. Scudamore and divers other persons, as Captain Taylor and Captain French and others, did the same, but it was denyed by the said High Sherriff, who theruppon tooke his horse and rodd out of the meadow. And at the same time two persons that voted for Captain Mason and stood on the table by the High Sherriff, were asked whether they were worth 200*l.*, and they confessed they were not."

Note in Colonel Edward Harley's handwriting, and initialed by him: "Colonel Birch demanded the pole in my hearing, so did Mr. Peter Powys. The undersherrif sayd, 'you shal hav a pole next year.' The greatest number who were neer the Sherrif when he declared Berry &c. to be chosen were servants to the Sherrif, and soldiers."

M. Harley to "my honoured friend," Colonel Edward Harley.

1656, September 12. Ludlow—"My haert rather died than was sad at your departing, and I can scarce write without takeing the same farwell of my letter which I use to doe of these I sent my mother; but if I doe weep now I have no one to chide me, the more is my sorrow." Brill has a tooth. Sir Robert and the children are well. Pray send two plain serge coats and two pair of shoes for each of the children. "You must bie for Mall those shoos which are second shoos."

Postcript.—I had writ 'my' before I thought to who I was directing my letter, and to make that up I became friends with you, tho I wear angry at your goeing from me." *Signet.*

Mary Harley to Nehemiah Allen, linendraper at the King's Head in Friday Street, London.

1656, September 12. Ludlow—Promising to pay some money due to him.

Ann Bilsby to Dorothy Harley, at Colonel Harley's house in Ludlow.

1656, November 25.—Condoling with her on the death of her father. *Signet.*

Thomas Froysell to Colonel Harley.

1656, December 4. Clun—I understand that you have appointed Wednesday for solemnizing your dear father's funeral. I will endeavour to prepare myself for the day. *Signet.*

The Funeral of Sir Robert Harley.

1656, December 6.—"For Ludlow; to provide great candles for the chamber, ornaments for the bed, wayters for the chamber and passag. Hers cloth above and below. Cords for the coffin. Scutcheons for the hers without.

To appoint wayters at the gate, hal, passages, stayres, buttry, dining roome.

To appoint meat for the several tables at the dining roome and hal, and wayters for them. Wine for the tables and for the morning.

Mourning ribbons for the friends. For the tenants, hat bands and gloves.

For Brompton; to apoynt the seates in the church, who shal sit within the chancel, who shal tak care of the coffin, who shal mak up the vault, who shall order the hers, who shall look to the church dore, who shall look to the church without, who shal order the tenants, who shal tak horses, where the horses shal be placed." *In Colonel Edward Harley's handwriting.*

Sir Robert and Brilliana, Lady Harley.

1656, December 10.—The inscriptions on the brass plates fixed on their coffins. *Copy in Colonel Edward Harley's handwriting.*

E. Viscount Conway to his cousin, Colonel Edward Harley, at Ludlow.

1656, December 10. Ragley—I received two letters from you whilst I was at Ostend from which I heard of your welfare and your Lady's happy delivery. I hope you will pardon me that I did not write from thence or give you any account of Flanders or the Court at Bruges, which I passed through, because my mind was wholly busied to get out of it, and when I came into France the campaign was almost at its close. In London I heard with sorrow the news of Sir Robert Harley's death. *Signet.*

Sir Robert Harley.

1656, December 25—"Given of my father's linen to my cosin Francis Hackluit, six shirts, one broken shirt, also remnants of Holland. To Jane Powel, three shirts. To Philip Lowk, four shirts and two fustian wastcotes and two payr of drawers, one payr of woolen stockings, three payr of gloves. To my cosin John Hackluyt, six bands, three payr of caps, three night bands, one gilted cap, three double holland caps, two fustian wastcotes, two payr of drawers.

December 26. Sent to my sister Dorothy one payr of holland sheets and one pillowbeare.

John Lyde, of Knill, to Colonel Edward Harley.

1656—Asking him as "beinge now elected member in the High Court of Judicature" to give his attention to certain parochial grievances in Herefordshire. *Signet.*

Mary Harley to her mother, Lady Button, at Parkgate in Tavistock near Barnstable.

1657, April 17. Bucknill—I hope to get a litter to come to you for the coach is too "hard" for me, and I hope I shall safely venture about the latter end of May. Brill and Mr. Harley are well. *Signet.*

William Freke to Edward Harley, at Bucknill Lane in Ludlow.

1657, May 7. Hannington—On business.

Major Robert Harley to Colonel Edward Harley, at Bucknill.

1657, June 22. The Tower—I have the liberty to walk in the green, which most of the prisoners have. Though there is some probability that I may be released, yet the uncertainty that is within themselves keeps me from any confidence in assumed conjectures. *Signet.*

Mary Harley to her mother, Lady Button, at Parkgate in Tavistock.

[1657], August 28—I am now able to go about and have much more strength than ever I expected, so I think my time is not far off. *Signet.*

THOMAS HARLEY to his sister [-in-law], MARY HARLEY, at Bucknill.

1657, November 24. London—I found my brother somewhat ill' the impressions which his disease made being not quite gone off. My brothers and sisters present their service to you. I hope you will enjoy much comfort in your little ones. *Signet.*

SAMUEL BARKLEY to COLONEL HARLEY, at Bucknill.

[16]57, November 28—I have read over your father's "metaphrase" and conceive it to be exactly done. Had he varied the phrase in some places for cadence and smoothness of verse, the work would have been complete. *Signet.*

MAJOR ROBERT HARLEY.

[1657]—An account of the circumstances which led to his being imprisoned in the Tower, and stating that he had been four times a prisoner since 1648.

THOMAS FROYSELL to his cousin, COLONEL EDWARD HARLEY.

[16]58, April 3. Clun—Sending him some books. *Signet.*

M. HARLEY to COLONEL EDWARD HARLEY, in London.

1658, May 4. Bucknill—I trust God will bring you safe to London and keep you from the distempers which now reign. I beseech you take care of venturing into houses where any are sick, or visiting any, for you are gone out of a clear air and therefore are subject to infection. Let me beg you to employ what money you receive from Marson in paying your own debts. I believe you may see others have need of money, but you have already taken all the burdens on yourself, and you have only the heart of your forefathers estate left, and you know that money is strait and hard to be had. I must borrow what you will give to the collection for I can get no money and I owe much already. Ralph Jones came on Saturday and told me my sister Dorothy asked him whether he thought she would be welcome at Bucknill. I am sorry those jealousies are yet alive, but to free myself I will go to Parkgate to be out of the way, if you will give me leave and obtain me a litter. I will get the money from my mother. I do not think the coach and I would agree for I have not been well since you went *Signet.*

DUNKIRK.

1658, June 4–14—An account written by Major Hinton, of the battle fought at Dunkirk by the English and French against the Spaniards.

PHILEMON STEPHENS to ——.

1658, June 5. London—Sending some books.

EDWARD CROFTS to [COLONEL EDWARD HARLEY?]

1658, June 23. Tavistock—On my return I found my Lady much worse than I left her. It is thought that she will not last a week, therefore I hope you will come to her with as much speed as can be.

COLONEL EDWARD HARLEY to his wife, MARY HARLEY, at Bucknill.

1658, June 29. Bridgewater—Consoling her upon the death of her mother, and telling her to prepare to come to Parkgate as soon as possible. *Signet.*

The SAME to [the SAME].

1658, July 3. Parkgate—I must be very earnest with you to begin your journey at once. If your litter is not ready, send and borrow Lady Herbert's or else to Bath to hire one. Do not stay to bring both the children. I will send or bring what money you want to Bath. I send you a copy of my Lady's will. The original I have sent to London. Your brother Strode was here before me but he was not suffered to come into the house. I spoke with him and we parted fairly. If my sister be come to you present my love to her.

THOMAS HARLEY to his brother, COLONEL EDWARD HARLEY, at Parkgate.

1658, July 8. London—My brother is in the same state you left him, saving that he hath there more freedom. My sister Dorothy went last week to Shropshire. My brother Stanley continues weak.

SIR ORLANDO BRIDGEMAN to EDWARD HARLEY.

1658, July 9—An opinion upon points in dispute under Lady Button's will. *Signet.*

THOMAS HARLEY to his brother, COLONEL EDWARD HARLEY.

1658, July 12. Westminster—Concerning Lady Button's will. *Signet.*

T. H[ARLEY] to his brother, COLONEL EDWARD HARLEY, at Parkgate.

1658, September 4. Westminster—It pleased God on Tuesday last August 31st to take my brother Stanley out of this life. My brother is not released but he hath liberty to be some few days at Chelsea, and I hope will be freed speedily. Yesterday in the afternoon, His Highness departed this life at Whitehall, and this day the Lord Richard, who was named by him to be successor, was proclaimed Protector in Westminster and London with solemnity. *Signet.*

JOHN ARSCOTT to his cousin, MARY HARLEY.

[16]58, September 7. Totcott—A letter of condolence upon the death of her mother. *Signet.*

WILLIAM STRODE to his sister [-in-law], MARY HARLEY, at Parkgate.

1658, September 9. Nuningham.—The receipt of your letter commands me to thank you for your invitation "which I must excuse." My repulse was so notorious that until there be some clearness, I shall not be a troublesome guest at Parkgate. My brother Harley gave me hopes to see him here. "Both you and he shall be very welcome. The doors open and no ill will within." *Signet.*

DOROTHY HARLEY to her brother, COLONEL EDWARD HARLEY, at Tavistock.

1658, September 16. Bucknill—The children are well and as merry and full of play as any of their age. My sister Stanley's loss is great, and your kindness extraordinary, but suitable to your constant practice. There is a very dangerous fever hereabouts. *Signet.*

JOHN WEBB to COLONEL EDWARD HARLEY, at Tavistock.

1658, September 17. Butleigh.—Offering to pay him a visit. *Signet.*

COLONEL E. H[ARLEY] to his brother-in-law, WILLIAM STRODE.

1658, September 22. Parkgate—I hear that you desire to see me at Hal to-morrow. I would willingly go much further to wait upon you, but I shall be glad if, since my wife has travelled over a hundred miles only in regard to yourself and her nephew and nieces, you being so near will come to see her in this place where you will find all the kindness that is due to so near a relation. *Copy.*

B. STANLEY to her brother, COLONEL EDWARD HARLEY, at Parkgate near Tavistock.

[16]58, September 28. Piccadilly (Pickadilly)—I beg you will forgive me for not having thanked you for your kind letter. Your journeys and my troubles have kept me from giving an account of of myself.

As you so kindly offer it I cannot but choose your company rather than to be in a house by myself this winter. I shall willingly give what you and my sister think fit. If I thought there were any inconvenience to your family in it I would not once think of it, therefore pray deal fairly with me. My brother Thomas left London yesterday.

JOHN WEBB to COLONEL EDWARD HARLEY, at Tavistock.

1658, September 29. Butleigh, Somerset—Postponing his visit till the following spring. *Signet.*

TIMOTHY WOODROFFE to COLONEL EDWARD HARLEY, in Devonshire.

1658. October 6. Kingsland—Giving an account of a meeting of ministers to consider the best means of obtaining uniformity in administering public ordinances. *Signet.*

DOROTHY H[ARLEY] to her sister[in-law], MARY HARLEY.

[1658], October 12—Giving news of her children.

WILLIAM STRODE to his brother-in-law, COLONEL EDWARD HARLEY at Parkgate.

1658, October 14. Nuningham.—I believe you are satisfied as to my submission and quietness by the award. Though my Lady's inequality is so notable an injury to me and the advantages so fruitful to you, I shall freely wish you all prosperity in it, As to the books, I shall leave it to you to send me what you think best. If you will favour us with your company you shall be most welcome. *Signet.*

The SAME to the SAME.

1658, October 22. Nuningham.—I have received your most courteous letter I shall account it much honour to see you and my sister or either of you at Nuningham. *Signet.*

W. M[ITCHELL] to DOROTHY HARLEY, at Bucknill.

1658, October 28. Oxford—A love letter. *Signet.*

The SAME to the SAME.

1658, October 29. Oxford—Another love letter. *Signet.*

B. STANLEY to her sister[-in-law], MARY HARLEY, at Parkgate.

1658, November 1. Bucknill—I came to Bucknill on Friday and found my brother and your two jewels quite well. Concerning an affair here I will say no more than that I hope my brother came very reasonably to prevent the mischief that, I think, wanted very little of completing, for sure a little longer time had done it. *Signet.*

WILLIAM STRODE to his sister-[in-law], MARY HARLEY, at Parkgate.

1658, November 4. Nuningham.—I am sorry my daughter Mary left you so solitary. I now send her back to you. "My sonn yesterday moved my sister Hele for the spleene stone, which by an acknowledgment under my brother's hand, they are reddy to lend. They say they will sell him for 100*l.* and have had 80*l.* offered for him. Butt my Lady Drake wher I went yesterday hopeinge to meet my sister Hele, had one of the old Sir Francis that she sayd she would sell for 50*l.* Whatt the difference I know not, nor the value of either. Wish they may doe you service if you continued your minde to them. You must take notice how you are after all kinde of meates and drinkes, not respectinge the tasts butt somewhatt the times of the day and the quantities. The phisicall discoverie of meate may be some helpe, butt the propertie of your owne constitution will best try them as to you. Doctor Quiett and Doctor Merriman will wayte on your discretion." *Signet.*

The Same to the Same.

1658, November 10. Nuningham.—"I am glad to hear you have such a lusty price for Parkgate, and now you perceive your advantage."

Colonel Edward Harley to Thomas Powys.

1658, November 16. Bucknill—I owe you an account of what I have done concerning Lady Button's will. I have upon an arbitration of friends agreed to give my sister-in-law's children 350*l.* more than the will bequeathed, and my brother-in-law releases all his title to me. *Signet.*

Thomas Smith to his cousin, Colonel Edward Harley, at Bucknill.

1658, November 16. London—Asking him to pay money owing which he required in consequence of his own and his wife's sickness. *Signet.*

E. Countess of Lincoln to her daughter[-in-law], Brilliana Stanley.

[16]58, December 7.—Regretting her inability to pay her debts for her.

Postscript. "Your brother is removed from his lodgings att Pickadilly to Charing Crosse and has forsaking his Betty this cold weather and taken another. Your brother Thomas was in towne but did not see him. I have parted with all your things but the blew ones, and I have 10*l.* odd money for you which I will convert into gold and send you by any safe messenger you shall appoynt, but I will not give it your brother."

Thomas Burgh to Colonel Edward Harley, at Parkgate.

1658, December 21. The Mint—For the price of pearls and diamonds, without sight of them no true value can be set, but if every way they be right, they will yield well, especially pearls. *Signet.*

Colonel Edward Harley to Mary Harley, at Bucknill.

1658[-9]. March 5. Fleet Street—"Your former letters, I must confes did trouble me, not that I doubted the tendency of your affection towards me, but that you should receive any impression to doubt the carefulnes of my affection towards you. But your last letter was most kind and most welcome, and for it receive a thousand thanks." *Signet.*

The Same to the Same.

1658[-9], March 19. Fleet Street—"Yours dated Munday last hath made me very sad and the more becaus I know not how to direct my thoughts and prayers, becaus you give me not the least light at your visitation; only as you do I desire grace to look up to our God." *Signet.*

MAJOR ROBERT HARLEY to his brother, COLONEL EDWARD HARLEY, at Bucknill.

1659, April 13. Westminster.—"As for Mistress Rowles, Mr. Somaster telling hir I had binne in the Tower for verses, shee desired to see them, which shee liked and gave Mr. Somaster a coppy of bald verses that had binne made to hir on hir losses, intimating that shee desired to have good ones made on hir afflictions. With the help of the doctor, whoe presents his service to you, I brought hir the enclosed which at first shee would not take but at last shee partly tooke and I partly stole them into hir hand, my thoughts with hir likeing. This was as hir behaviour, which was first with telling me shee would not have seene me but for hir cosen Somaster, yet shee stayed at home with me, well pleased as I thought, and hath since expressed a kind of expectation of some of my friends visiting hir, soe that I gott the Dutchesse of Buckingham, the Lady Townshend and cosen Vere to give hir a visitt, but shee was not at home. To-morrowe they goe againe. Shee saith shee will use them civilly and returne their visitt, which I hope will give me an opportunity of seeing hir, which I have not binne able to doe but once since I sawe you, for all my diligence. Shee hath soe much businesse and soe many sollicitors for others, soe various where shee is, that I thinke shee is halfe harid. I hope to put it to some sudden issue. The successe is in the hands of God and I hope to make it prosperous. This wooing is the oddest thing I ever was about, and is fitt for one that hath much more or much lesse understanding then I have. I knowe not where to aske advise of but of some wise woman. What if you sent to the woman in Montgomeryshire?"

On Friday the House of Commons voted that they would receive no message from the other house but by members of the other House. It is thought that a truce for three years has been concluded between France and Spain. *Signet.*

THOMAS DOUGHTY to [COLONEL EDWARD HARLEY?]

1659, April 27. Medborne—Sending his son Harry to wait upon him.

MAJOR ROBERT HARLEY to his brother, COLONEL EDWARD HARLEY.

1659, May 12. Westminster—On business. *Signet.*

DUNKIRK.

1659, July—Particulars of the revenues of the town of Dunkirk, as delivered to the Commissioners.

HERBERT EVANS to his uncle, COLONEL EDWARD HARLEY, at Bucknill.

1659, August 31. Penerick—"I am induced to give an unwilling belief to a current rumour that your lady my dear aunt is dead. If I have been tardy in condoling with you I must remind you that these tidings which are stale in Herefordshire are news in Monmouthshire." *Signet.*

NATHANIEL STEPHENS to his daughter, ———

1659, September 10. Essington—My daughter FitzJames is here with Jack and Grace, but her husband still lies sick at Salisbury. *Signet.*

E. VISCOUNT CONWAY to his cousin, COLONEL EDWARD HARLEY.

1659, September 22. Ragley—I should have long ago expressed my sorrow for the loss of your Lady if the troubles of these times had not by the indiscretion of one of my servants caused both himself and my horses to be carried away to Coventry. From whence, having newly obtained a discharge for the one and the other the first thing I was anxious of is to express my affection for you. I hope my cousin Robert Harley has sent you my grandfather's picture which I delivered to him before I left Kensington. Now I am here till the spring with my wife and our little boy, who is weaned and has two teeth. My mother and my wife present their service to you and my cousin Stanley and the rest of my cousins. *Signet.*

SIR WILLIAM BRERETON to COLONEL EDWARD HARLEY.

1659[–60.], January 18. Westminster—Enclosing an order from the "trustees" in favour of the ministers of Hereford. *Signed. Signet.*

WILLIAM VOILES and others, [Ministers of Hereford], to COLONEL EDWARD HARLEY.

1659[–60], January 27. Hereford—Thanking him and Sir William Brereton for kindness received. *Signet.*

E. VISCOUNT CONWAY to his cousin, COLONEL EDWARD HARLEY, at the Ship in Aldersgate Street, London.

1659-60, January 28. Ragley—The day after we had the honour of your company the gentry of this county sent to desire me to wait upon them, which I obeyed, and found them very unanimous for the freedom of the Parliament and the peace of the country.

I am much obliged that you think of me among your many divertisements in London. *Signet.*

The SAME to the SAME.

1659-60, February 11. Ragley—My brother Rawdon acquaints me that the army, the gentry and the whole kingdom of Ireland are highly unsatisfied with the present actings at Westminster, and are now in consultation to employ their utmost endeavours for a free Parliament. *Signet.*

The COUNCIL OF STATE to the COMMANDER of the Parliamentary Forces in Leicestershire.

1659[–60], February 12. Whitehall—*See Calendar of State Papers. Domestic. Same date.*

E. Viscount Conway to his cousin, Colonel Edward Harley.

1659–60, February 25. Ragley—I congratulate you on your safe return to Parliament with as sincere affection as they will bring who begin to see a glimpse of the recovery of lost estates after a despair of seventeen or eighteen years. I must confess, if I were admitted, my vote should be that all parties might be put into a secure, peaceable, and quiet, condition, both for conscience and estate; which is the only way in my opinion to take off the edge of war which runs through the nations. *Signet.*

The House of Commons.

1659[–60], February 29—*See Journals of the House of Commons. Same date.*

The Same.

Same Date—Notes of the proceedings which took place in the Speaker's chamber in pursuance of the preceding order.

The Same.

1659[–60], March 2—*See Journal of the House of Commons. Same date.*

Major Robert Harley to his brother, Colonel Edward Harley, one of the Honourable Council of State.

1659[–60], March 2. Bury—"From Newemarkett I gave you an account of our march. Yesterday wee came hither and intended this morning by three of clocke to have marched to have fallen upon Rich, but he is fledd and his men with their standards are come to us. Some officers and some fewe soldiers are gone along with him pretending to goe to His Excellency which I thinke they will scarse doe, seeing Rich but yesterdaye soe positively declared himselfe that he would obey noe other general but the commissioners, and wholly disownes the parlement as it is, which caused the soldiers to leave him and come to Inglesby. Wee intend to staye here till Munday or longer. I entreate you to endeavour the lifeguard, as a lifeguard may have an establishment from the House if possible or from the Councel, which I knowe would be kindly taken by the General, and I should be gladd you would use this or some other oppertunity to expresse your respects to him." *Signet.*

E. Viscount Conway to his cousin, Colonel Edward Harley.

1659–60, March 3. Ragley—"At the desire of the gentry of our county, who being informed that the Parliament in passing an Act to settle the militia through the Kingdome, and having no member for any part of the county in the House, from whom information might be given of their interests and concernes, they have entreated me to transmit to you this enclosed nomination of such as are most fit for the

militia or the peace and the like, in which they have not omitted the principall of such as have been employed in all changes. The rest were in actuall service for the Parlament till [16]48, or very great promoters of their late petition for a free Parlament, and will be chosen for the next." It is their resolution to establish a very gallant militia to consist wholly of gentry and freeholders. Among the rest they have named me. "I have waved all employment ever since you did so yourselfe, but it is my intention for the future to act with them." *Signet.*

COLONEL EDWARD HARLEY to EDMUND CALAMY.

1659[–60], March 5. Westminster—Requesting him and Doctor Reynolds, Mr. Ashe, Mr. Manton, Mr. Havilands, and Mr. Jacomb to confer with the Committee for religion in the Speaker's chamber.

——— to ———

1659[–60], March 6. Sudbrooke—Concerning the powers conferred by the General on Sir Trevor Williams to raise forces in the counties of Monmouth, Glamorgan and Hereford, and to disarm suspected persons and to give commissions under his own hands. *Signature torn off. Endorsed* "Anonymos to Anonymos."

The HOUSE OF COMMONS.

1659[–60], March 9—Report by Colonel Harley of an Act for taking the account and redressing the grievances concerning tithes and church livings in Wales. *See Journal of the House of Commons. Same date.*

GENERAL GEORGE MONK to COLONEL HARLEY, a member of Parliament.

1659[–60], March 13. Saint James's—Asking that Mr. Gumble might be settled in his fellowship at Eton which he very well deserved; or that if he could not be given that place that he might be made Warden of All Souls College Oxford. *Signed. Signet.*

The HOUSE OF COMMONS.

1659[–60], March 15.—Report by Colonel Harley concerning ministers. *See Journal of the House of Commons. Same date.*

E. VISCOUNT CONWAY to his cousin, COLONEL EDWARD HARLEY, at Whitehall.

1660, March 31. Warwick—"We have sent up a list of officers for two troopes of horse and six companies of foot by my Lord Brook whom we have nominated to command them. These are not all such as we would have had, yet more then we should have obtained, being but seven or eight of us to eighteen of the contrary party, if we had not stood very stiffe to our principles. We have reduced their share to little more then two companyes of foot, which if the Councell thinke fit to alter, my Lord Brook will propose others in their place. I beleeve our

militia may yet rise to a greater proportion of horse and foot, but they will be all insignificant if the command of Warwick Castle be not given to my Lord Brook, whose proper estate and inheritance that castle is." *Signet.*

ROBERT BRETON to COLONEL EDWARD HARLEY, member of the Council of State.

1660, April 1. Pemb[ridge] — I am sorry you should meet with such a requital from some of the gentry of this county as to oppose your election. "Popery is both the ultimate end of their giddy proceeding, and the primary engine that sets all their wheels agoing. Sir Henry Lingen, Commissary Lingen, Moore of Chelson, Moore of Burrop, Major Hopton, whose wife is a fetuited papist, being the principall complotters and the most famous prosecutors for Mr. Price, who is incapable of being chosen by the qualifications, incompetent both in respect of yeares, estates &c. But hee is contracted if not married to Mistress Barbary Moore, a gentlewoman of noe fortune but a very forward, argumentative Romanist, and that is all in all." *Signet.*

EDWARD REYNOLDS and others.

1660, April 2. Sion College—Petition on behalf Francis Frogier, minister of the Church of Pamiez, between the Pyrenœan mountains and the city of "Thologouse." *Printed.*

MAJOR GENERAL EDWARD MASSEY to COLONEL EDWARD HARLEY, at Fish Yard, Westminster.

1660, April 2. Gloucester—I have sent Mr. Langton to London to the General to give him an account of the unlawful carriage of things here and the injustice, by a warrant of his for my restraint, which was done me by falsely accusing me of having come down hither upon some evil design for the raising of trouble against the present authority. *Signet.*

JOHN GRAUNT to MAJOR ROBERT HARLEY.

1660, April 4. Westminster—On business relating to his squadron. *Signed. Signet.*

JOHN GREENE to COLONEL EDWARD HARLEY, at Whitehall.

1660, May 14. Hereford—"I have received yours which brought the hapiest newes to Heriford, I beleve, that ever came there, as theire expressions did manifest. Sir, acordinge to your comandes all the souldiers in the cittie did wait upon the maior and common councell with their severall companies to the markett place where the scaffould was built for the proclaimage of the Kinge, who did march in good and comly order and the souldiers did give some vollies of shott there. After the proclamation made there, the cheife gentry of the countie with the maior and the rest of cittie did goe into the castle yard where the proclamation was read againe, where we gave severall volleys of musketts and did give manie peales with our cannons, and in the eveninge there were manie bonfires in the cittie, and three we made in the castle, where we did as before both with musketts and cannon. Sir, the same day,

the gentrie of the countie did invite Collonell Purie and the rest of the officers to drinke a cupp of wine, where they did in a verie civill and kinde manner expresse their joy, and did promise much to us, soe that now I trust the Lord will in mercie heale all our breches."

ARTHUR ANNESLEY, President of the Council, to ——

1660, May 15. Whitehall—Order that Mr. Thomas Nicholls, Mr. Maurice Lloyd, Doctor Ezekiel Tongue, Mr. Allen, Mr. John Kinnerston, and Mr. Edward Vaughan who had lately been arrested in Montgomeryshire as being dangerous to the peace of the nation, should be released on subscribing the engagement enclosed. *Signed. Duplicate.*

ROBERT WALSH to COLONEL HARLEY, Governor of Dunkirk.

1660, [May] 17. "Berge Saint Venox"—Asking for a pass in order to come and congratulate him on his arrival in the country. *Signet.*

ROBERT BARBER and others to LORD GENERAL LOCKHART, at Dunkirk.

1660, May 26. Saint Omer—Petitioning him to obtain their freedom under the terms of the "capitulation" between England and Spain.

LIEUTENANT COLONEL HEANES to COLONEL HARLEY, Governor of Dunkirk.

1660, May 31—Promising to come in a fortnight. *Signet.*

E. LORD HERBERT to his cousin, COLONEL HARLEY.

1660, June 1. London—Asking him to receive Tom Price into the King's service at the garrison of Dunkirk. *Signet.*

The MAGISTRATES of Dunkirk to COLONEL EDWARD HARLEY.

1660, June 1—Grant of one third of the excise to Colonel Harley in the same way as it had been granted to former governors both French and English. *Signed* "Fugghe." *Seal of arms. French.*

DUNKIRK.

1660, June 1—An abstract of the customs receipts from June 1, 1659, to June 1, 1660, amounting to 36,334*l.* 8*s.*

SIR EDWARD MONTAGU, Admiral of the Fleet, to COLONEL HARLEY.

1660, June 2. Aboard the *Charles*—Congratulating him on his appointment of Governor of Dunkirk.

GENERAL GEORGE MONK to COLONEL HARLEY, at Dunkirk.

1660, June 2. Cockpit—Giving him leave to come to England. *Seal of arms.*

THOMAS BURGH to COLONEL EDWARD HARLEY.

1660, June 2. The Mint—I hear you met the King on his way. Many great offices are made at Court. Chancellor, Hyde, Secretaries, Nicholas and Sir William Morice, Lord Chief Baron, Sir Orlando Bridgeman. Amongst the privy counsellors already sworn, Sir Anthony Ashley Cooper is one, and I hear Mr. Pierpoint and Sir Denzil Holles are to be so. The affairs of the Mint are full of alteration.

RENÉ AUGIER to COLONEL HARLEY, at Dunkirk.

1660, June 3–13. Paris—I have received a letter from my son of the 7–17 May, announcing the change in the government of Dunkirk and the commission which has been conferred upon you. *French. Signet.*

EDWARD BACKWELL to COLONEL EDWARD HARLEY.

1660, June 4. London—Concerning a payment of 62,400 livres for the garrison of Dunkirk. *Signet.*

DUNKIRK.

1660, June 4—An abstract of the muster of the Governor's regiment of horse. Total 616. Also of their subsistence for one week amounting to 2,037*l.*

1660, June 7—A list of the men in England with Lord Lockhart's pass.

The SAME.

Same date—An abstract of the subsistence of the force of the garrison from the 4th to the 9th of June; amounting to 6,883*l.* 8*s.*

MAJOR ROBERT HARLEY to his brother [COLONEL EDWARD HARLEY].

1660, June 5. Westminster—It was carried in the House of Commons that all receivers of public money not only from [16]48 but from [16]42 should be excepted in the Act of Pardon. This day was taken up in debating whether "the seven of the King's judges who are to [be] excepted from life should be named by ballott or noe. It was carryed not by ballott. Hyde is chancellor; General [Monk] Master of the Horse; Manchester, Chamberlaine; Ormond, Steward; I think it's Fred Cornwallis, Treasurer; Sir Charles Berkley, Controller; William Ashburnham, Cofferer; Sir Orlando Bridgman, Cheife Baron; Serjeant Hyde, and one Foster, are in the Common Pleas. The two Cheife Justices are still empty. The old ones strife hard for it. I heare Charles Howard is added to the Privy Council."

SIR GEORGE MONK to COLONEL EDWARD HARLEY.

1660, June 6. Cockpit—Recommending Mr. Samuel Owsley for a cornet's place. *Signet.*

BERNAVE DE BARGAS MACHUCA, Governor of Ostend, to COLONEL EDWARD HARLEY.

1660, June 6–16. Ostend—Concerning some English sailors. *Signed. Signet. French.*

S. HARTLIB to COLONEL WILLIAM (sic) HARLEY, Governor of Dunkirk.

1660, June 7. King Street, Westminster—Yesterday the Parliament voted the seven persons excepted in the general pardon for life and estate, namely Major General Harrison, Commissioner Lisle, Colonel Barkstead, Mr. Say, Mr. Scot, Mr. Cornelius Holland, and Colonel Jones. This day they have added three more who were employed as officers in the High Court of Justice, namely Solicitor Cooke in Ireland, Mr. Broughton the clerk of the Court, and Serjeant Dendy; also the two persons who were in disguise. *Signet.*

SIR THOMAS CLARGES and others to COLONEL EDWARD HARLEY.

1660, June 7. Westminster—Concerning a ship of Lynn which had been taken by the Swedes and brought into Dunkirk. *Signed. Signet.*

CHARLES COTTEY to COLONEL EDWARD HARLEY.

1660, June 7. Dunkirk—Contract for repairing the King's magazine situate in the street called Boomstraet. *Signed.*

SIR GEORGE MONK to JOHN GRANT.

1660, June 9. The Cockpit—Commission appointing him to be a lieutenant in Major Harley's troop of horse. *Signed. Seal of arms.*

MONSIEUR D'AVIGNON, Governor of Gravelines, to [COLONEL EDWARD HARLEY,] Governor of Dunkirk.

1660, June 13–23. Gravelines—On behalf of the inhabitants of the town and castelry of Bourbourg, which was French and not Flemish, and therefore not liable to the requisition which had been made upon them by the Governor of Dunkirk. *Signet. French.*

[COLONEL EDWARD HARLEY] to [MONSIEUR D'AVIGNON,] Governor of Gravelines.

1660, June 16–26. Dunkirk—Regretting that he could not comply with his request on behalf of the castelry of Bourbourg which he found to be liable to contribute to the garrison of Dunkirk. *Copy. Also a copy of the same in French.*

MONSIEUR D'AVIGNON to COLONEL [HARLEY].

1660, June 17–27. Gravelines—I hear that you have some troops coming whom you propose to quarter in the castelry of Bourbourg. I am unwilling to believe that you will give the King my master this cause of displeasure, unless you intend to declare war which I do not

believe to be your design. If however it is your intention to lodge them in Bourbourg I shall be obliged to demand assistance of my neighbours to prevent the lodgment and to cause it to be known to his Eminence. *Signed. French. Also a literal translation into English.*

[Colonel Edward Harley] to [Monsieur d'Avignon.]

1660, June 18–28. Dunkirk—"I conceive not the reason why you are pleased to bestow so many lines upon that which was not before so much as bruited among us I presume not to pry into what commands the King my master hath for any of his troopes either on this or on the other side the seas, but hope by the grace of God to give an account becoming a gentleman of what shal be my share to obey." I must say that there is no one that will rejoice more than myself "in the continuance of amity and good intelligence with his Majesty of France." *Copy, unsigned. In Colonel Harley's handwriting. Also a copy of the same in French but dated June* 19–29, 1660.

Sir George Monk to Colonel Edward Harley.

1660, June 21. The Court at Whitehall—In case Sir George Derick, the King's agent in Flanders, shall bring into Dunkirk any person or persons who were of the pretended judges for the putting to death the late King of famous memory, I desire to send orders to those whom you left in the chief command of that garrison to be careful to send any such persons very securely with a commission officer by the next ship to England and to be received in the Tower of London. *Signed. Seal of arms.*

Colonels Henry Lillingston, Tobias Bridge, and Roger Alsopp to Colonel Edward Harley, at Westminster.

1660, June 21. Dunkirk—On garrison business.

Major T. Hinton to Colonel Edward Harley, in London.

1660, June 22. D[unkirk]—At the beginning of next week the magistrates of this town have promised without fail to furnish your quarters with such conveniences as they have done to other governors. *Signet.*

R. Saltonstall to Colonel Harley.

1660, June 22—A letter of apology. *Signet.*

Colonels Henry Lillingston, Tobias Bridge, and Roger Alsopp to Colonel Edward Harley, at Westminster.

1660, June 23. Dunkirk—Since our last, one of the magistrates of Bourbourg has been with us to acquaint us that by express order of the governor of Gravelines they are forbidden to pay any contribution to the garrison. There is little probability therefore of obtaining any contribution from them except by force. We know not whether this will not produce an ill effect among the other castelries as to their contributions.

The two persons whom you sent into Artois are returned without much news, finding all things peaceable, and no visible appearance of any rendezvous or gathering of forces in those parts. We are informed there are two regiments of foot lately come to Gravelines, one of which is the Picardy regiment, one of the best regiments in France. *Signed Signet.*

MAJOR WILLIAM LLOYD to COLONEL EDWARD HARLEY.

1660, June 23—Many of the officers here take alarm with great apprehensions of change on your return. They are conscious of their evil doings, which occasions such distrust. I am sure you are in very high esteem with the generality of the soldiers. *Signet.*

COLONEL HENRY LILLINGSTON to COLONEL EDWARD HARLEY.

1660, June 23. Dunkirk—All things here remain in "good condition and sedate posture." I wish you good success in your grand affairs and a speedy and safe arrival. *Signet.*

The SAME to the SAME, at his lodging in Fish Yard, Westminster.

1660, June 25. Dunkirk—The intelligence we sent you that some forces had come to Gravelines is not true. *Signet.*

JOHN LANGHARNE.

1660, June 25—Certificate by Hugh Owen, Erasmus Phillipps, and eight others, that John Langharne had served as a cornet in Wales and Ireland and had behaved himself civilly and gallantly.

ABRAHAM DAVIS to COLONEL EDWARD HARLEY.

1660, June 25. Dunkirk—Thanking him for kindness received and asking for assistance in his private affairs.

COLONELS HENRY LILLINGSTON, TOBIAS BRIDGE, and ROGER ALSOPP to COLONEL EDWARD HARLEY.

1660, June 25. Dunkirk—We will diligently observe your directions, in relation to the order contained in your letter of the 21st, when any such person or persons are brought hither, and will forthwith give you account of the same. We are joyful to hear of your safe arrival, and of his Majesty's gracious acceptance of our address. A messenger has come from the magistrates of Bourbourg promising to pay you their contribution. *Signed. Signet.*

MAJOR T. HINTON to COLONEL EDWARD HARLEY.

1660, June 25. D[unkirk]—Captain Gargrave seeks to have his company again which now Captain Davies hath. He was put out by the Commissioners to the Rump.

The GOVERNOR OF BRUGES to COLONEL EDWARD HARLEY.

1660, June 27. Bruges—Concerning two peasants of Merchem who had been taken prisoners by the English and afterwards released for fifteen days, and who now demanded to be released from the ransom charged upon them. *Signed. French.*

Colonel Edward Harley to Colonels Lillingston, Alsopp, and Bridge, at Dunkirk.

1660, June 27. Westminster—Urging them to get in the contributions from the castelries. *Signet.*

The Magistrates of Dunkirk to Colonel Edward Harley.

1660, June 28—Petition for the relief of the inhabitants of Dunkirk from some of the charges imposed upon them for the support of the English garrison. *Signed* "Rugghe." *French. Enclosed is a copy of a receipt in Flemish for a loan of* 7,000 *livres.*

Dunkirk.

1660, June 28—A list of the magistrates of Dunkirk, consisting of a bailiff, a burgomaster, nine sheriffs (*echevins*), a treasurer, two paid councillors (*conseillers pensionaires*), a registrar (*greffier*), and nine other assistants, with their respective duties. *Signed* "Rugghe," *the registrar. Fragment of Seal of arms.*

Colonel Henry Lillingston, Tobias Bridge, and Roger Alsopp to [Colonel Edward Harley].

1660, [June] 28. Dunkirk—Regretting that they had not yet heard of his safe arrival, and giving garrison news.

The Same to the Same, in London.

1660, June 29. Dunkirk—This day we received the enclosed from the Governor of Bruges touching two men who were fetched away from the freedom of Bruges by the volunteers, by Lord Lockhart's order. We find the castelries very backward in bringing in their contribution, and we have thought it well to send to some of the parishes of the castelries of Ferne which have been most remiss, to fetch in one or two of the chief boors, in order to satisfy the arrears of their contributions. *Signed.*

Major William Lloyd to Colonel Edward Harley, in London.

1660, June 29. Dunkirk—Respecting insubordination and disloyalty in the garrison. *Signet.*

The House of Commons.

1660, June 29—Order that the officers and soldiers of the garrison of Dunkirk shall take the oath of supremacy and allegiance.

Dunkirk.

1660, June 29—Calculation of the monthly pay required for the garrison, amounting to 4,800*l.*, for the present garrison and 388*l.* 5*s.* 4*d.* for his Highness [the Duke of York's] troop of horse.

Colonel Edward Harley to the King's Council.

1660, June 29—Petition that the sum of 4,800*l.* per month for the subsistence of the garrison of Dunkirk and the additional sum of

388*l.* 5*s.* 4*d.* for the Duke of York's troop of one hundred horse which are to be received into that garrison, may be charged upon the whole excise of ale and beer in London; the charge upon the moiety of such excise previously made not being sufficient for the purpose. *Copy.*

ROBERT BARTON to COLONEL EDWARD HARLEY.

1660, June 29. Dunkirk—Thanking him for obtaining his release from captivity. *Signet.*

THOMAS DELAVAL to COLONEL EDWARD HARLEY.

1660, June 29. Dunkirk—Acknowledging the receipt of bills of exchange from Mr. Backwell for the service of the garrison, and reporting upon the difficulty of obtaining contributions from the castelries. *Signed.*

DUNKIRK.

1660, July—A list of the establishment of the garrison of Dunkirk according to Act of Parliament, and giving the particulars of the allowances, commencing with the governor at 2*l.* 10*s.* a day.

ROBERT LEVISON to [LORD GENERAL MONK, in London.

1660, July 1. Dunkirk—Asking for redress of his wrongs.

COLONELS HENRY LILLINGSTON, TOBIAS BRIDGE, and ROGER ALSOPP to [COLONEL EDWARD HARLEY].

1660, July 1. Dunkirk—This day we received a letter from Sir Henry Devit, the King's agent in Flanders, who sent Mr. Thomas Scott to this place. According to the Lord General's order and your directions we have made him prisoner and committed him to safe custody. You may be confident that your directions for his security shall be diligently observed until a vessel be sent hither to transport him. *Signed.*

The SAME to the SAME.

1660, July 2. Dunkirk—To the same effect as the preceding letter. *Signed. Signet.*

NATHAN NOYES to COLONEL HARLEY.

1660, July 2. Mr. Davis's house at the backside of the Round Court, over against the New Exchange—Asking for an answer to his request for further employment at Dunkirk.

DUNKIRK.

1660, June 30 and July 2—Receipts by Roger Cole and Thomas Heane from Colonel Harley for officers commissions.

The SAME.

1660, July 2—Receipts to the same effect from John Ewbank, John Turner, and William Fleetwood.

DUNKIRK.

1660, July 2 and 3—Receipts to the same effect from Christopher Monk, Francis Bromwick, Francis Conway, John Cope, and Richard Boone.

The SAME.

1660, July 3—An account of what was due, received, and remaining in arrear to the troops at Dunkirk between the 15th June 1658 and the 3rd July 1660.

Due, 141,059*l.* 12*s.* 1*d.* Paid, 92,069*l.* 11*s.* 10*d.* In arrear, 48,990*l.* 0*s.* 3*d.*

The GOVERNOR OF BRUGES to COLONELS LILLINGSTON, ALSOPP, and BRIDGE.

1660, July 6. Bruges—Authorising them to open his letter to the Governor of Dunkirk [of the 27th June] concerning the two peasants of Merchem who had been taken prisoners. *Signed.*

FRANCIS PEMBER to COLONEL EDWARD HARLEY, in Fish Yard, Westminster.

1660, July 7—I have often made known my business to you, and I am informed that if you would let the Speaker know your desire beforehand, he would easily grant your small request, which, if he might understand this night, upon Monday morning I might be at liberty. *Signet.*

DUNKIRK.

1660, July 7—The Governors account from June 16 to July 7. Total payments, 18,021*l.* 6*s.* Receipt, 17,272*l.* 3*s.* 9*d.*

MAJOR T. HINTON to COLONEL EDWARD HARLEY.

1660, July 9. D[unkirk]—The magistrates have furnished your quarter with the same furniture that Lord Lockhart had, but he furnished the rooms with his own hangings and rich pictures and cabinets. Your bed is set up in the middle chamber and has a withdrawing chamber on each side, Pewter, linen, and all such necessaries are likewise ready. *Signet.*

The MAGISTRATES OF DUNKIRK to [COLONEL EDWARD HARLEY].

1660, July 9. Dunkirk—Concerning the difficulties of finding accommodation for the Duke of York's troop of horse. *Signed* "Rugghe." *French.*

COLONELS HENRY LILLINGSTON, ROGER ALSOPP, and TOBIAS BRIDGE to [COLONEL EDWARD HARLEY].

1660, July 9. Dunkirk—We have sent Mr. Scott on board the *Assistance* frigate under the custody of Major Lloyd, for delivery to the Lieutenant of the Tower. *Signed.*

Colonel Henry Lillingston to Colonel Edward Harley, at Westminster.

[16]60, July 10. Dunkirk—A letter of thanks. *Signed. Signet.*

Major William Lloyd to Colonel Edward Harley.

1660, July 10. Margaret Road—Announcing his safe arrival into Margaret Road with Mr. Scott. *Signet.*

J. Balthazar to ——

1660, July 12. Dunkirk—Stating that he had received a threatening letter from Mr. Thomas Delaval ; and asking for the protection of the government not for himself only but for the whole of the Council of which he was a member. *Latin.*

Enclosed is a copy of a letter in French from Thomas Delaval to Monsieur Balthazar informing him that he was obliged to proceed against him (donner des articles) before the English Council of State.

Sir George Monk to Colonel Robert Harley.

1660, July 12. The Cockpit — Commission to Colonel Robert Harley to be colonel of the regiment of horse to which Colonel Edward Harley had lately been colonel. *Signed. Seal of arms.*

Francis Nicholls, Deputy Governor to Sir Edward Nicholas.

1660, July 13. The Tower—I have received in safe custody the body of Mr. Thomas Scott. *Signed.*

The King to Major Robert Harley.

1660, July 14. The Court at Whitehall — Direction to Major Harley to collect certain moneys which had come to the hands of John Brayne, Waterhouse, Commissary Jones, and Lieutenant Philipps, through transactions with Oliver Cromwell. *Signed. Royal Seal of arms. Countersigned by Sir William Morice.*

Colonels Henry Lillingston, Roger Alsopp, and Tobias Bridge to Colonel Edward Harley, at Westminster.

1660, July 19. Dunkirk—On garrison business. *Signed.*

Alexander Clogie to Colonel Edward Harley, at Westminster.

1660, July 29. Wigmore—On parochial matters.

Dunkirk.

1660, July 20—Report of the Committee for the garrison of Dunkirk, recommending an allowance of 1,400*l.* per annum for repair of the old works, and thirty shillings a day for supplying the hospital. *Copy.*

William Harrison to Colonel Edward Harley, in London.

1660, July 23. Dunkirk—Thanking him for obtaining for him the post of preacher to the garrison at a salary of 6*s.* 8*d.* a day.

THOMAS DELAVAL to COLONEL EDWARD HARLEY.

1660, July 23. Dunkirk—There is a report at Berghe that the King is to have that place and castelry in lieu of Jamaica, which makes the contribution to be brought in apace. I have bought some excellent Rhenish wine for you, pray let me know what other wine you will have put in your cellar. *Signet.*

COLONELS HENRY LILLINGTON, ROGER ALSOPP, and TOBIAS BRIDGE to [COLONEL EDWARD HARLEY].

1660, July 27. Dunkirk—The enclosed papers were brought by the foot post from Bruges having come thither from Amsterdam, and are sent by an unknown hand. *Signed.*

The SAME to [the SAME].

Same date and place—Concerning disputes with the Governor of Berghe about the supply of hay for the garrison. *Signed.*

NATHAN ROBERTS to MAJOR WILLIAM LLOYD, in Fish Yard, Westminster.

1660, July 27. Dunkirk—Having seen a letter from Mr. Bradford, apothecary to the surgeon of the Governor's regiment, that he and two more, were seeking my place, I acquaint you with it in case the Governor desire any signification from me that I have not only served the King in my own person but also suffered for him to my great detriment.

COLONEL ROGER ALSOPP to COLONEL EDWARD HARLEY.

1660, July 30. Dunkirk—Warning him not to pay any moneys to Major Pease.

JEN. JONES to COLONEL EDWARD HARLEY.

1660, July 30. Dunkirk—Asking for payment of his arrears, or to have his command restored to him. *Signet.*

COLONELS HENRY LILLINGSTON, ROGER ALSOPP, and TOBIAS BRIDGE to COLONEL EDWARD HARLEY.

1660, July 30. Dunkirk—Concerning the supply of hay, and other garrison business. *Signed.*

DUNKIRK.

1660, July 30—An abstract of the officers and men in Colonel Edward Harley's, Colonel Lillingston's, and Colonel Alsopp's regiments and in Colonel Edward Harley's regiment of horse.

DENNIS DEE to COLONELS HENRY LILLINGSTON, ROGER ALSOPP, and TOBIAS BRIDGE.

[1660, July ?]—Petition for an enquiry to be held to examine into the accusations of disloyalty brought against him by Henry Thomas.

1660, July 31—Evidence of the witnesses, examined by a court martial against, and on behalf of, Dennis Dee.

No Date—Resolutions passed by the court that the charges made by Henry Thomas against Dennis Dee had not been proved, and a further resolution that the said Henry Thomas should on the following day at the relieving of the guard "ryde the space of two howres on a great gun, to bee drawne thither for that purpose, with nyne pound waight at each heele, with an inscription purporting his offence. That at six weekes end from this day the Marshall see him shift away for England and that he bee cashiered from tomorrow night, never to bee admitted into the army or this garrison." *Copy.*

KATHERINE ARCHBOLD to COLONEL EDWARD HARLEY.

1660, August 1—Enclosing a metrical version of the 146th Psalm. *Signet.*

WILLIAM FLEETWOOD and MAJOR THOMAS HINTON to COLONEL EDWARD HARLEY, in London.

1660, August 2. Dunkirk—Informing him of the great destitution of the officers in his regiment who were of opinion "that the Truimviri doe not give you an account of their great wants." *Signet.*

THOMAS HARLEY to his brother, COLONEL EDWARD HARLEY, at Westminster.

1660, August 4. Bucknill—The pretty child here is well, and thrives finely. My wife desires her affectionate service.

MAJOR WILLIAM LLOYD to COLONEL EDWARD HARLEY, at Westminster.

1660, August 5–15. [Dunkirk]—Since my last, things have happened that may prove very dangerous, unless you or Colonel Harley prevent it by hastening to your command here. Your deputies here clash, the soldiers are wrought upon, and many of them change their religion. Some discovery has been made, but I am confident the mystery will not be found out until the arrival of yourself or your brother. The restraint of these two priests aggravates their fury, and if they were presently well examined, the whole villany would be discovered and ground enough for turning them all out of town, which truly I think would be very advantageous to the King's service here. Passports are granted out here, since your departure, without exceptions, the Commander-in-chief being over-borne. *Signet.*

THOMAS DELAVAL to COLONEL EDWARD HARLEY, at Westminster.

1660. August 6. Dunkirk—I question not but that the governors here have given you an account of the Capuchins attempt on our soldiers. I am of opinion that if his Majesty make it at first a difficult business, Caracen will order you hay or anything so long as you do not proceed against them according to our English laws. Without doubt they had their design and would have waited a long time, for there were many books in English, Irish, and Welsh. If this, and causing them to take the oath of abjuration from our religion do not infringe on us, I leave it to better judgment. *Signed.*

Colonel Tobias Bridge to Colonel Edward Harley.

1660, August 6. Dunkirk—Concerning the provision of hay for the winter. the requisitions for which the Marquis of Caracen had forbidden the country to supply. *Signet.*

William Voiles and others to Colonel Edward Harley, at Westminster.

1660, August 7. Hereford—Recommending Mr. Wotton, minister of Llangarren, to be lecturer of Ross. *Signed. Signet.*

Signor Ognatus to the Capuchins [at Bruges].

1660, August 19 [new style]. London—"Haveing received your lettre I presently went to the King and at lardge tould him what happened to your Father Capuchin in Dunkerke, whoe was very much offended at it, and when I tould him the reason, that it was about the conversion of some soldiers, His Majesty replied, 'what is that the Fathers doe, but theire duty, let them take care they be not turned,' and presently chardged to call the Governor against three of the clocke this afternoone, whome he commanded that the Fathers should not be molested, and to give them all things againe. But the Governor took out a lettre and shewed that there were some Irish fathers whoe would stir up the soldiers to mutiny.

Touching the turning of any man, the fathers may use their function, but not stir them up to mutiny. Nevertheless His Majesty ordred that the fathers should be set at liberty and used with all freedome and respecte as every where els in the Spanish jurisdiction, but he will not have any subjects there that are Irish or English preists. Soe that the Governor hath ordre to restore the said fathers all things." *Copy, translated.*

Ernst de Pampus to Colonel Edward Harley, at Westminster.

1660, August 9–19. Dunkirk—Asking to be made lieutenant "amongest the horsemen." *Signed. Signet.*

Dunkirk.

1660, August 9–19—Colonel Edward Harley's particular account with Thomas Delaval from June 8 up to date. Receipts 4,536*l.* 2*s.* 9*d.* Payments 1,798*l.* 11*s.* 9*d.*

The Same.

Same date—Garrison account with Thomas Delaval from July 9–19 to date. Receipts 44,774*l.* 19*s.* 11*d.* Payments 48,445*l.* 14*s.*

William Hawes to Colonel Edward Harley, at Westminster.

1660, August 9. Dunkirk—Concerning his removal from his command.

Colonels Henry Lillingston, Roger Alsopp, and Tobias Bridge to Colonel Edward Harley.

1660. August 10. Dunkirk—In our last we gave you an account of the imprisonment of two Capuchins who have been instrumental in

reducing many of the soldiers from the Protestant religion to the Popish, and sent you some of the examinations of the soldiers. By their means many of our soldiers were instigated to run away from their colours, the Capuchins giving them passports and letters of recommendation to pass through the country. We wait your orders concerning them. *Signed.*

COLONEL TOBIAS BRIDGE to SIR EDWARD HARLEY, Knight and Baronet (sic).

1660, August 10. Dunkirk—On garrison business. *Signed. Signet.*

SAMUEL SHILTON to COLONEL EDWARD HARLEY, at Westminster.

1660, August 10. Wigmore—Since Mistress Stanley went to the Bath I have written you eight letters. Little Mistress Mary is very well. Mr. Powys sent for a buck, which was sent him by Mr. Harley's direction. *Signet.*

THOMAS BURGH to COLONEL EDWARD HARLEY.

1660, August 11. Mint—If you will visit the East India ships now at Blackwall, Alderman Backwell, Comptroller Hoare, and myself will wait upon you on Monday or Tuesday at seven in the forenoon; and the Alderman prays you on your return to accept of a small collation at his house at Greenwich. *Signet.*

DUNKIRK.

1660, August 11—Resolution of the Committee for Dunkirk that a representation be made to the House for a month's pay for the officers and soldiers, to be charged upon the moiety of the excise of ale and beer, being the sum of 5,555*l.* 11*s.* *Copy.*

THOMAS SMITH to COLONEL EDWARD HARLEY, in Fish Yard.

1660, August 13. Twickenham—Excusing himself for not having waited upon him.

EDWARD PIERS to COLONEL EDWARD HARLEY.

1660, August 13. Northampton—Concerning his proposed appointment as minister of Knighton.

The TREASURER of the King [of Spain] to ——.

1660, August 13. Brussels—Prohibiting the export or import of merchandise by way of Dunkirk. *Copy.*

COLONELS HENRY LILLINGSTON, ROGER ALSOPP, and THOMAS BRIDGE to [COLONEL EDWARD HARLEY].

1660, August 15. Dunkirk—We understand that the King has given you directions for the banishment of Father Alexander. It would be most to the safety of the garrison if the rest of the convent were removed. Here enclosed is a copy of a letter from Signor Ognatus,

burgomaster of Bruges, now in England, brought to us by two of that convent, by which you will see how much the King has been abused in the report of the case.

Colonel Tobias Bridge to Sir Edward Harley, at Westminster.

1660, August 15—I have been informed that votes have passed the House, or at least the Grand Committee, exempting several persons under several qualifications from having any benefit " of those purchases made from the publique. Amongst others it is sayd that all Major Generalls as alsoe all that have sate in any parliament since 1648 are to be exempted from haveinge any benefit or satissfaction for what they have bought of that nature, whearein I must necessarily be concerned, and soe consequently ruined unless itt shall please the Lord to stirr up some friende to apeare for mee." *Signet.*

Colonel Henry Lillingston to Sir Edward Harley.

1660, August 16—Enclosing a report of proceedings against Mr. Ashenhurst. *Signet.*

The Earl of Sandwich to Colonel Harley.

1660, August 16. Whitehall—I conceive Captain Coates now under your command will not be continued, he having been unhandsomely injurious to the King's service in betraying Major Richard Dutton and others in their attempting the King's restoration. Major Dutton is a man of worth and I make bold to recommend him for the command which Coates yet has. *Signed. Signet.*

Captain John Graunt to Sir Edward Harley.

1660, August 16. Dover—Concerning difficulties raised by the custom house officers as to the transportation of the horses belonging to the Duke of York's troop. *Signet.*

Thomas Bowyer.

1660, August 16. Dunkirk—Testimonial by Colonel Lillingston, T. Hinton, and many others in favour of Thomas Bowyer, chaplain in Dunkirk to Colonel Lillingston. *Thirty-one signatures.*

Thomas Burgh to Colonel Edward Harley.

1660, August 17. Mint—I have endeavoured to be accommodated with such persons as would have been necessary to have waited on you to the East India ships, but cannot meet with any yet. You may go aboard if you please if you are a person of honour, but for want of a commander shall not see anything but what is common. *Signed. Signet.*

Dunkirk.

1660, August 18—Report of the committee for Dunkirk that money should be advanced for providing coal for the garrison, and that " centry gownes " and better holsters should be provided out of the stores. *Copy.*

J. Balthazar, Burgomaster of Dunkirk to [Colonel Edward Harley].

1660, August 20. Dunkirk—Asking for a safe conduct for certain members of their body who had gone to London. *Signed.*

Colonel Robert Harley to Colonel Edward Harley.

1660, August 20. Colebrooke—I do not think you will find any that will provide coals cheaper than what I have agreed with Sir Ralph Delaval for. Pray remember the business of your arrears. It lies in Colonel Birch's way to help you to make a quick despatch, though I believe all the committee of the army will assist you, for after the arrears are stated, they become a debt on the excise. *Signet.*

Ernst de Pampus to Colonel Edward Harley.

1660. August 20–30. Dunkirk—Reminding him of his previous letter, and asking for a recommendation to his brother Colonel Robert Harley. *Signed. Signet.*

The Same to the Same.

Same date and place—To the same effect as the preceding letter. *French.*

Colonel Roger Alsopp to Colonel Edward Harley.

1660, August 20. Dunkirk—Asking to be informed whether the report is true that he is to be superseded in the command of his regiment by Colonel Bethell. *Signed.*

Colonels Henry Lillingston, Roger Alsopp, and Tobias Bridge to Colonel Edward Harley.

1660, August 20. Dunkirk—Father Alexander is still in prison. We are very careful to keep the officers to their duty upon the guards, and are still very inquisitive to make discovery of the bottom of the design of these priests, and have taken care to procure intelligence from abroad. *Signed. Signet.*

The Earl of Saint Albans to Colonel Harley.

1660, August 25. Paris—"The Queen having hard of two Capuchins beeing put in prison for something donne by them at Dunkirk, she hath commanded me to desire this liberty of you. She hath written to the King but in the mean space if you think fitte, I presume you cannot doe amisse in gratifying her with this satisfaction. I am fully persuaded that you cannot doe better then in disposing soe of this, whiche makes me recommend it to you." *Signed. Signet.*

William Sherborne to Colonel Edward Harley.

1660, August 28—Concerning the unfair appointments to the canonries of Hereford. *Signet.*

COLONEL EDWARD COOKE to his cousin, COLONEL EDWARD HARLEY.

1660, August 29. Chiswick—"I presume the contents hearof will a little surprise you, but that I may deale freely with you, I thus was occasioned to aske you this question. Yesterday my lord Gerard tooke mee aside and premizing greate confidence in mee, and equall respect to you, he asked mee whether I thought any preferment at Court, or honor, or office, or sum of money, might willingly gaine you from your governement of Dunkirke. I undertooke noe answer for you, that soe you may give your owne. Now because I knew but late last night of this, and am necessitated early this morning for Oxfordshire, I, hoping to bring Colonel Norton to Kensington last night, made him privy to the busynesse, and only him. If you will not heate, I will dampe expectacions as handsomely as I can, but your resolution is desyred with as much speede as conveniently you can. Sir William Fleetwood comes downe tomorrow, and soe doth Miles Fleetewood; either will bring you comands." *Signet.*

PIERRE FAULCONNIER to COLONEL HARLEY.

1660, August 30. Dunkirk—A Spaniard called Juan de Lattalaya, going into England as paymaster of the household (*dispensier de la maison*) of the Prince de Ligne, ambassador extra-ordinary from the Catholic King to his Majesty, has obtained a promise from his master that he will solicit for him from his Majesty, my post of bailiff to this town, which I have held since the year 1650, when I bought it from the owner. I am obliged now to have recourse to you for protection, to explain the matter to his Majesty. *French. Signet.*

CAPTAIN JOHN GREENE to COLONEL EDWARD HARLEY.

1660, September 3—Concerning Hereford Castle, the lead from which had been disposed of for the use of the church. *Signed.*

The JESUIT FATHERS at Dunkirk to COLONELS LILLINGSTON, ALSOPP, and BRIDGE.

[1660, September ?]—Petition for leave to introduce two of their fathers into the town of Dunkirk for the service of the order. *Copy. French.*

FATHER CANAGE to COLONEL HARLEY.

1660, September 3—Enclosing a copy of the preceding petition, which had been refused, and asking for his assistance in the matter. *Signet. French.*

RALPH THICKNES to SIR EDWARD HARLEY.

1660, September 8—Introducing John Brayborne, formerly surgeon on board the King's ship, *Lion.*

THOMAS DELAVAL to COLONEL EDWARD HARLEY.

1660, September 8. Dunkirk—Concerning Dutch and Spanish trade intrigues with reference to Dunkirk. *Signed.*

DUNKIRK.

1660, September 16—Certificate by the Burgomaster and Sheriffs of the town of Dunkirk that Pierre Faulconnier succeeded to the office of Bailiff of the same town upon the death of his cousin Philip Herry on the 29th December 1660. *Signed* "Rugghe." *Seal of arms. French.*

[COLONEL EDWARD HARLEY] to PIERRE FAULCONNIER, Bailiff of Dunkirk.

1660, September 17. Westminster—I account your case as Bailiff of Dunkirk sufficiently guarded by the articles and capitulations for the rendition of this town into English hands. However I have carefully lodged both your petition and title with Sir William Morrice. *Copy.*

[COLONEL EDWARD HARLEY] to the MAGISTRATES OF DUNKIRK.

1660, September 17. Westminster—Some necessary occasions delay me a few days longer from you, therefore I request you since the farm of beer excise determines with this month, that it may continue in the same way till I return. When I was amongst you I experienced so largely your civilities that I cannot doubt you will afford the like to my brother. *Copy.*

COLONEL ROBERT HARLEY to COLONEL EDWARD HARLEY.

1660, September 17-27. Westminster—Acknowledgment of the receipt of five bills of exchange for sums amounting altogether to 32,300 livres, to be employed for the subsistence of the forces in Dunkirk. *Signed.*

SIR WILLIAM MORRICE to the POSTMASTER at the White Hart by Charing Cross, and the rest between Hereford and London.

1660, September 18. Whitehall—Order to furnish Colonel Edward Harley with five horses and sufficient guides and furniture, "to ride in poste to Hereford at his Majestie's rates." *Signed. Seal of arms.*

ANN MONK [DUCHESS OF ALBEMARLE] to COLONEL EDWARD HARLEY.

1660, September 19. Cockpit—Introducing Mr. Miles Martin, a linendraper at the Three Nuns, Cheapside, and asking that he might be allowed to furnish the linen cloth required for the garrison at Dunkirk. *Signed. Seal of arms.*

The DUKE OF ALBEMARLE to COLONEL EDWARD HARLEY.

1660, September 19. Cockpit—Introducing his friend Mr. Richard Downing, who had been used to furnish the soldiers in Scotland and Ireland with clothes, and asking him if he were not already engaged, to deal with him. *Signed.*

ALDERMAN EDWARD BACKWELL to COLONEL EDWARD HARLEY.

1660, September 20. London—Acknowledgment of the receipt of an ordinance of Parliament for the payment of 1200*l.* a week from the 1st August to the 5th November out of the moiety of the excise of the beer and ale.

Dunkirk.

1660, September 20—Account between Colonel Harley and Alderman Backwell from June 25 to September 20. Payments out to the troops, 9,000*l.* Receipts, 21,600*l.*

The Same.

1660, September 21—An account of the moneys expended in the garrison during the absence of Colonel Edward Harley from the 26th June to the 21st September, amounting altogether to nearly 10,000*l.*

The Same.

1660, September 22—An account submitted by Colonels Lillingston, Alsopp, and Bridge to Colonel Harley of moneys expended upon the fortifications in June, July, August, and September, amounting altogether to about 220*l.*

Captain Lister and Colonel Edward Harley.

1660, September 24—An account of the difference between Captain Lister and Colonel Harley at the Swan and Falcon in Hereford.

H. Norwood to Colonel Harley.

1660, September 26. Whitehall—Asking him to support his request to his Excellency (the Duke of Albemarle) for the command of two companies of the Duke of Buckingham's regiment now at Dunkirk.

Matthew Lock to Sir Edward Harley, at Bucknill in Shropshire.

1660, September 30. Cockpit—I received your letters concerning the companies of the Duke of Buckingham's and the Earl of Cleveland's regiments. My Lord carried the letter to the Commissioners for disbanding the army, and the King has since commanded that when the money for disbanding shall come to Dunkirk the officers be discharged and the soldiers be taken on as recruits into the other regiments there; which my Lord Duke doth now signify by letter to your brother Sir Robert Harley. *Signed. Signet.*

Sir Henry Devick to Sir Robert Harley.

1660, October 4–14. Brussels—I have made a complaint to the Marquis of Caracen, and he commands or rather, as he tells me, reiterates his commands that no impediment shall be given to any manner of victuals going to Dunkirk for its necessary provision; but as to matter of commerce it is, as he said, "so destructive to their owne porte townes, as for to excuse it he hath written to the Baron de Batteville, the King of Spayne's ambassador at London, to deale with the King our master in it." *Copy.*

Samuel Wildey to the King.

1660, October 8. Rotterdam—"The general report being here that his Highness the Duke of York is by God's Almighty hand visited with the small pox, I most humbly pray your Majesty that a drop of blood

should not be draw from the veines of his Royall Highness, been very dangerous in his condition and firstly cause the death. The long experience that I have in that sorte of sickness make me so bold to sent my advice to your Majesty." *Copy taken by Isaac Bobin.*

The Same to the Same.

N.D.—Remedy for the small pox.

"Take new laid eggs, three yolkes and whites, fry them in fresh butter that was never salted, twelve onces, till the eggs be very hard. Then pour the butter from the eggs into a basson full of fayre cold water. Let it stand till the butter be cold and caked, then take it of from the water and put it into a fayre vessell and beat it with a wooded spatter, continually adding three or four drops of damaske rose water, till the butter with beating come to be white.

Fiat unguentum.

Then take of that unguent four onces, add to it *saccarum* sugar-candy, *albi* two drams finely pulverizated misse, *fyat electuarium.*

Be sure to give of this three times a day and so in the night the quantity of a nutmegg upon a knife point. Let it dissolve in his mouth and swallow it down—this by God's grace and assistance—will cure the small pox in the throat which is the cause of most men's death in that disease.

Then take the unguent without the candy and warme it in a saucer and anoynt the face and eyes with a feather morning and evening, and this preserves the eyes and keeps the face from pitting.

Probatum est.

Now if it please God that his Royall Highness the Duc of York cannot sleep, lett a live pidgeon be slitt in two, and one halfe be applyed so soone as it is splitt to the sole of one foot and the other halfe to the sole of the other foot, fast bound with rowlers and so remaine twenty-four houres, and by God help, that will procure sleep and extract the venemous quality of the disease from the heart and vitall spirits."

Pierre Faulconnier to Colonel Harley, at Whitehall.

1660, October 8. Dunkirk—Thanking him for his kindness in assisting him to retain his office. *Signed. Signet. French.*

The Duke of Albemarle to Colonel Edward Harley.

1660, October 9. Cockpit—Recommending Captain John Hewetson for a command. *Signed. Seal of arms.*

The Duke of Albemarle to Lieutenant Samuel Sharpe.

1660, October 10. The Cockpit—Commission to be a lieutenant Sir Robert Harley's regiment of horse. *Signed.*

Colonel Robert Harley to Colonel Edward Harley at Westminster.

1660, October 10–20. Dunkirk—On garrison business. *Signet.*

JOHN CHESTER to COLONEL EDWARD HARLEY.

1660, October 10—Concerning proceedings instituted against him at Bucknill under the Act of Parliament for settling or displacing ministers. *Signet.*

F. LORD WILLOUGHBY of PARHAM to COLONEL ROBERT HARLEY, at Dunkirk.

1660, October 13—Recommending to his consideration Captain Middleton, son of Henry Middleton, "an honest good fellow, and principall of our club at the Bull Head." *Signet.*

SAMUEL SHILTON to COLONEL EDWARD HARLEY.

1660, October 15. Wigmore—"The full relation of God's dealinge with your little one at Bucknell, I shall leave to a better hand and only acquaint you that the determinat counsell of God is past upon it in receiving it to himselfe." The funeral was managed with all care both from your brother and all your servants and in such a way of honour as became your child. *Signet.*

THOMAS DELAVAL to COLONEL EDWARD HARLEY, in London.

1660, October 15. Dunkirk — Notwithstanding his letter, the Governor of Berghe doth still hinder us and forbids any goods to come into the town, and also stops all goods that come out of the town. They hinder absolutely all our trade and we have nothing at all to do in our custom house.

The SAME to the SAME.

1660, October 18. Dunkirk—Respecting the illness of Colonel Robert Harley, and recommending the bearer, Captain Ely, for a command in the garrison. *Signet.*

SIR HENRY LINGEN and others to COLONEL EDWARD HARLEY.

[16]60, October 19. Hereford—Asking him to forgive the unhandsome carriage towards him of Captain Lister when he was last at Hereford, and to excuse his appearance in answer to the summons which he had received from the Privy Council. *Signed. Signet.*

SIR WILLIAM WALLER to COLONEL HARLEY, Governor of Dunkirk.

1660, October 21. Osterley Park.—"I cannot but esteem itt a great happiness to me that having now but one son left whome I can own with the affection of a father, I have the liberty—by your favour—to deposit him in your noble hands, where he may enjoy the benefit of your advice and example. I have freely given you his character allready, and I presume his overt nature will quickly verify itt. You will finde him to be of a flexible, ductile disposition, and ready, I hope, to embrace your good counsaile, if his easiness do not betray him to ill company. The only thing I feare in him is his love to play, which hath putt him upon borrowing and shifting to his great disadvantage, and will still indanger him, if there be not a severe hand carried over him. I make itt my

humble sute that you will be pleased to keep him as busy as you can, that he may not be att a leasure to mispend his time. His allowance is fifty pounds a yeere, and if he may receive itt there from you, by such proportions as you shall thinke fitt, I shall punctually from time to time upon sight of your bill pay itt heere to whomsoever you shall appoint; or if that may be any way inconvenient I shall take some other course to returne itt unto him, as this bearer, my servant, shall acquaint me with your minde. Sir, I intimated in the beginning of these lines, that this poore youth is now in effect my whole stock; my eldest son being gon away from me in a rebellious way which I have reason to take so much the worse, as itt is without any provocation att all offered to him, and flattly contrary to his own protestations of duty and obedience made more then once upon his knees, with teares, unto me. He is now —as I am informed—att Callice, from whence the passage is so short that I have just reason to feare he may quickly forme some designe from thence to debauch his brother. This I the rather apprehend because he hath allready attempted itt heere, and—as the case now stands with him—he hath no other way to secure himself against his brother's interest, but by involving him in the same guilt. I make itt my humble sute therefore, that you will exercise your noble friendshipp in houlding an eye upon him so farr as that if he should make any visit to his brother —upon what pretence soever—you would discharge him out of the town, and not suffer them to be together."

DUNKIRK.

1660, October 22. Dunkirk—The muster roll of Sir Robert Harley's troop, consisting of Sir Robert Harley, colonel and captain; Captain Leist, cornet and quartermaster; three corporals; two trumpets; one chaplain; mate; marshall; and ninety-five private soldiers. *Signed* "Thomas Browne."

The SAME.

Same date — An account of a month's pay to the officers and soldiers on the muster of the 22nd October, amounting altogether to 5,734*l.* 19*s.* 8*d.*

J. CHESTER to COLONEL EDWARD HARLEY, at Westminster.

1660, October 23—Concerning the proceedings instituted against him at Bucknill.

EDWARD BACKWELL to SIR ROBERT HARLEY.

1660, October 25. London—Advising him that a bill of exchange had been drawn upon him for 15,600 livres. *Signet.*

WILLIAM CLARKE to SIR EDWARD HARLEY.

1660, November 1. Cockpit—Concerning the accounts of the pay of the Earl of Cleveland's disbanded regiment. *Signet.*

DUNKIRK.

1660, November 2, to 1661, May 28—A book containing copies of orders for stores given out by the governors.

THOMAS HARLEY to his brother, COLONEL EDWARD HARLEY.

1660, November 7. Bucknill—I took care, by my wife, to acquaint you how it pleased the Lord to deal with us in respect of the sweet little one. I beseech God to make up that loss abundantly in this life by vouchsafing you a happy consort, whereby your family may be built up and established. *Signet.*

JOHN BOYS to COLONEL [EDWARD] HARLEY.

1660, November 12. Whitehall—Since your departure I have not been wanting in my attendance on the Lord General and Lord Marquis Ormond, as in relation to our affairs, for which I stand so much engaged to your great civility both to my Lord Richard Butler (Boteler) and myself, and I am commanded by Lord Richard to signify to you the high "recentment" he hath for your respects towards him, who will not be wanting in all he may to serve you. *Signet.*

ARTHUR ANNESLEY to COLONEL EDWARD HARLEY.

1660, November 14. Drury Lane—Introducing his younger brother Robert Annesley who had been promised an ensign's place, and asking him to prevent his being drawn into bad company and not to allow him to borrow money of the officers or soldiers. *Signed.*

ALBERT RAYMAKER, Rector of the Jesuit College, to ——

1660, November 19. Dunkirk—Stating that the Jesuit Fathers, notwithstanding any reports to the contrary, had always lived on good terms with the Capuchin Fathers in that town. *Signed. Seal of the order. French.*

SIR EDWARD MASSEY to COLONEL EDWARD HARLEY.

1660, November 20. London—It has pleased God to take out of this life your beloved sister Madame Stanley, last Sunday the 18th. "She is embalmed and lyeth at Lincolne House in that decent sort and right as a much lamented mourning herse of her condition and quallity justly doth clayme there by that honourable family."

You knew with what freedom the House of Commons voted the King 1,200,000*l.* per annum, but how to reach the sum is yet in search; for the hundred thousand pounds promised his Majesty instead of the Court of Wards we have had great debate today in the House where to lay it, that it may be effectual and valid. Some propose a land tax, others to put it on the excise. *Signet.*

[DUNKIRK.]

1660, November 22—Contributions payable to the garrison from the 22nd May, up to date by the castelries of "Cassell, Berghe, Turnoe, Bourbourg, Popperinghe," and "Bell." Total 36,050 livres.

JAMES [DUKE OF YORK] to COLONEL [EDWARD] HARLEY.

1660, November 26. Whitehall—I give you thanks for your care for the providing for my troop. *Signed. Signet.*

The Duke of Albemarle to Sir Edward Harley.

1660, November 27. Cockpit—Recommending Ensign John Ewbank for preferment. *Signed. Seal of arms.*

Sir John Shaw to Sir Edward Harley.

1660, November 28—Concerning the provision of money for the garrison at Dunkirk. *Signet.*

Sir Robert Harley to his brother, Colonel Edward Harley, at Dunkirk.

1660, November 29. Westminster—I intend that my dear sister shall be enterred on Saturday at Chelsea. Your children are very well at Mrs. Hunt's, where I intend they shall stay until you come, which I desire you to hasten, for I think it no way expedient for me to go hence until you come.

I can give you but little account of the affairs of the garrison, having seen but not spoken much with the King or any one else. The Parliament have voted the King the excise to make up his twelve hundred thousand pounds a year, one half for ever, the other half for his life. *Signet.*

William Strode to his brother[-in-law], Colonel Edward Harley.

1660, December 3. London—Introducing Mr. Richard Squier, brother to Mr. Dennis of Barnstaple. *Signet.*

Robert Shaw to Colonel Edward Harley.

1660, December 3. London—Concerning the money transactions of his master, Alderman Backwell, for the garrison at Dunkirk. *Signet.*

Harman Barney, of Saint Clement's Danes, to Sir Robert Harley, of Kingsland in Herefordshire.

1660, December 4—Releasing him from all debts, accounts, suits, and demands "from the beginning of the world unto the day of the date hereof." *Signed. Signet.*

Dunkirk.

1660, December 10—An account for work done at Fort Lyon and the great half moon in Dunkirk and still unpaid, amounting to 2,200 livres, 160 stivers. *Signed by Colonels Lillingston, Alsopp, and Bridge.*

Sir Robert Harley to his brother, Colonel Edward Harley.

1660, December 13. Westminster—Concerning the supply of money for the garrison of Dunkirk. *Signet.*

ROBERT SHAW to COLONEL EDWARD HARLEY.

1660, December 13. London—The King has ordered that my master (Alderman Backwell) and Sir John Shaw do join in paying you for the use of the garrison. They have conferred about the affair and have agreed to furnish 20,000 livres in equal shares. *Signet.*

DUNKIRK.

1660, December 14-24—Sir Edward Harley's particular account. Total receipts on his behalf 9,977*l.* 13*s.* 3*d.*; total payments for him 9,704*l.*, leaving a balance in his favour of 273*l.* 13*s.* 3*d*

— SENESCHAL to SIR [EDWARD] HARLEY.

1660, December 14. "Chonny"—My cousin Wroughton told me you wished to have some "vin de Bonne Ther," but there is none nearer than fifty or threescore leagues. There is very good champagne wine here. As for a riding master, there will be one shortly whom I will send you, and the *valet de chambre* also. If you write to me direct your letters to "Monsieur, Monsieur Seneschal, *Marèchal des logis des gendarmes de S. E., ches Monsieur Randon maitre du Baton royal, Rue St. Honoré, proche les quinze vingts, à Paris.*" *Signet.*

DANIEL JOHNSON to [SIR EDWARD HARLEY].

1660, December 17—When I was in France I was entreated "by many of the poor Protestant Church in those parts to recommend their condition to the governor of this garrison." So long as "this garrison is kept by the English they enjoye much safety," but if ever "this towne should be surrendered either to the French or Spaniard they were all lost people, and expect nothinge should follow thereon but a sudden and dismale massacre throughout theire whole nation."

DUNKIRK.

1660, December 17—A list of the officers and soldiers in the Duke of York's troop of guards in Flanders, consisting of four commissioned officers, captain, Sir Charles Berkeley; Lieutenant, Robert Dunghan; Cornet, John Godolphin; and quartermaster, Edward Berkeley; seven non-commissioned officers; and seventy four guards. *Signed* "E. Berkeley."

The SAME.

Same date—A statement of the pay for the above troop for one month, amounting to 329*l.* 11*s.* 8*d.* ,,

The SAME.

1660, December 18–28—A list of the magistrates of the town of Dunkirk, made in the King's name. *Flemish.*

—— to the MAGISTRATES OF FURNES.

1660, December 26. Dunkirk—Asserting that a contract was made by Monsieur Skinkell for the delivery of 200,000 bottles of hay to the garrison of Dunkirk by their castelry. *Copy.*

FATHER STANISLAUS ALDENARDENSIS, Guardian of the Capuchin Fathers at Dunkirk, to ——

1660, December 27. The Capuchin Convent—Denying that they had ever had any disagreement with the Jesuit Fathers, except one trifling matter arising out of a sermon which was long ago arranged. *Signed. Seal of the order. Latin.*

SAMUEL SHILTON to COLONEL EDWARD HARLEY.

1660, December 29—I received with much joy the news of your safe return to England. All yours here are very well. *Signet.*

DUNKIRK.

1660, December 29—A list of articles to be issued out of the King's stores within the office of the ordnance, for the use of the garrison.

CAPTAIN ROBERT BARBOUR to COLONEL EDWARD HARLEY.

1660, December 29. "From the house door"—Enclosing the preceding list.

DUNKIRK.

1660—A list of the customs and excises due from the town of Dunkirk and which belong to the King.

The SAME.

1657–60—A list of the magistrates of the town of Dunkirk for the years 1657–60.

The SAME.

1660—A statement of the values of certain English, French, Flemish, Italian, Spanish, Portuguese, and other coins, both gold and silver, at Dunkirk.

The SAME.

1661—A list of persons in the town of Dunkirk who owe annual rents to the King.

THOMAS DELAVAL to COLONEL EDWARD HARLEY, in London.

1661, January 2. Dunkirk—Mr. Sergeant has put it to the question in the College whether you had a commission to change the magistrates or not, and he was answered by Mr. Lanis that he should have asked you that question when you changed them, and that it was not fit to do so then. He was silenced in that way, but he is contriving something with the Capuchins and the Jesuits to invent some way to get himself in again. The Father Rector of the Jesuits has been with me twice on small pretexts to see if he could draw anything out of me, and Father Canage has been with me also.

The great church was robbed last night, but what was lost is not more than thirty shillings, and whether it was by the Dutch or our soldiers no one knows. Father Canage talks very high and said in passion that if satisfaction were not given he was assured there would be an alteration in two or three months. *Signed.*

The Same to the Same.

1660–1, January 4–14. Dunkirk—Having heard a report that there were ten great "billanders" come to Berghe to carry away the Spanish regiment, I sent a trusty man there who tells me that there are not five fine "billanders" about the town, but that the Spanish regiment is to march away. He also heard that our King is to marry a princess of Portugal and that Flanders is lost and Caracen is a rogue. *Signed. Signet.*

Patrick Forbes to Colonel Edward Harley.

1661, January 5. Dunkirk—Asking for assistance for himself and his son. *Signet.*

The Burgomaster, Sheriffs, and others of the town and castelry of Furnes, to the Three Commanders in the absence of the Governor, at Dunkirk.

1661, [January 6]—Concerning the contribution payable by their town and castelry. *Signed.*

Colonel Henry Lillingston, T. Hinton, and William Lloyd to Colonel Edward Harley.

1660[-1], January 12. Dunkirk—We have administered the oaths of allegiance and supremacy to all the officers and soldiers of all the regiments, as also to the train, and the officers of the custom house. None have remained in default except three or four papists who, refusing the oath of supremacy, have been removed out of the town. His Highness's lifeguard have desired it might be foreborne as to them till we hear further from you, they having written to His Royal Highness to be excused, divers of them being Catholics. *Signed. Signet.*

Dunkirk.

166-[1], January 14—The muster of the officers and soldiers in the Governor's, Colonel Lillingston's, Colonel Alsopp's, and Sir Robert Harley's regiments. *Signed* "Thomas Browne, Commissary."

The Same.

Same date—The muster of the officers and soldiers in the Duke of York's troop of guards. *Signed* "E. Berkeley," Quartermaster.

E. Viscount Conway to his cousin, Colonel Edward Harley, at Westminster.

1660–1, January 16. Ragley—I am a suitor to you on my brother's behalf that you will renew his pass till May Day. My mother thanks you for your present. I know not whether I shall see you before I go into Ireland which will be presently after the coronation. *Signet.*

MAJOR T. HINTON to COLONEL EDWARD HARLEY.

1660[-1], January 24. Dunkirk—We are informed that the bridge which was built on "Hounscot" River was framed at Berghe, and set up there in a night. It is rumoured that there is some design on this place by way of surprise. What truth there is in the report I know not. *Signet.*

DUNKIRK.

1660[-1], February 11—The muster of the officers and soldiers of the Governor's, Colonel Lillingston's, Colonel Allsopp's, and Sir Robert Harley's regiments.

The SAME.

N.D.—Description of the "fresh water" work at Dunkirk.

BARON DE WANGHE to [the COMMANDANT of the town of Dunkirk].

1661, February 17. Berghe—Asking to be informed whether the bridge in the castelry of Berghe, which had been broken by their orders, had been replaced.

An INVENTORY.

1660[-1], February 28—An inventory of clothes and personal property, and a catalogue of "my master's" books.

E. EARL OF MANCHESTER to COLONEL EDWARD HARLEY.

1660[-1], March 1, Whitehall—Announcing to him that the King intended to advance him into the Order of the Bath on the occasion of his coronation, and requesting him to attend at Westminster on the 18th of April, "furnished and appoynted as in such cases apperteyneth, there to beginn the usuall ceremony, and the next day to receive the said order of Knighthood of the Bath from his Majestie's hands." *Signed. Signet.*

THOMAS HARLEY to COLONEL EDWARD HARLEY, at Westminster.

1660-1, March 5. Bucknill—On business concerning Leominster and Radnor. *Signet.*

ABIGAIL H[ARLEY] to her husband, COLONEL EDWARD HARLEY, Governor of Dunkirk.

[1661], March 5—I hope this will be my last letter, as I shall be in continual expectation of you next week. My prayers are for your safe and sudden return. My humble service to Sir Robert. The children are very well. *Signet.*

SIR ROBERT HARLEY to his brother, COLONEL EDWARD HARLEY.

1660[-1], March 8-18. Dunkirk—I wish you both much joy. About ten days ago the Marquis Salviati, ambassador from the Duke of

Tuscany to the King, has been in this town. I entertained him as well as I could. He lodged at the "conserges." He removed thence to-day and I have appointed that house to entertain Lord "Musory" and his officers when they please to come to town. I have been cautious in admitting numbers of them into town, especially of their women, who are as many as their men. They lie in their boats about a league off Furnes, and have been very unruly, notwithstanding that Lord Musory hath put two to death and doth what he can to keep them in order; yet none pass them but are stripped. I do not find Lord Musory inclined to go to Mardyke, but rather to lie where he is. *Signet.*

ROBERT KYRLE to his cousin, COLONEL EDWARD HARLEY.

1660[-1], March 8. Walford Court.—Offering to sell him Walford at 55*l.* the Winchester acre for meadow land, 60*l.* an acre for orchard land, and 10*l.* an acre for arable land, and 2,000*l.* for the house.

THOMAS HARLEY to his sister[-in-law, ABIGAIL] HARLEY.

1660–1, March 9. Bucknill—Regretting that he had missed seeing her when he was in town, and congratulating her upon her relation to his family. *Signet.*

ABIGAIL HARLEY to [her brother-in-law,] COLONEL EDWARD HARLEY.

1660–1, March 9. Bucknill—Congratulating him on his marriage. *Signet.*

ABIGAIL HARLEY to [her sister-in-law, ABIGAIL] HARLEY.

1660–1, March 9. Bucknill—Congratulating her on her relation to the family and hoping that God would make her both a particular and a public blessing.

WINCESLAUS PLETS to [COLONEL EDWARD HARLEY].

1661, March 14. Dunkirk—Asking him to send directions to his brother (Sir Robert Harley) to permit the works for bringing water into the town to be proceeded with. *French.*

JOHN BRAYNE to his kinsman, COLONEL EDWARD HARLEY, at Westminster.

1660[-1], March 23. Little Deane—I have sent you Colonel Kyrle's letter. The whole price at his estimate will come to about 8,000*l.*, but when you come to treat with him you might have an abatement of 1,000*l.*, and with good reason, though I am confident it is the finest thing in Herefordshire of that value. *Signet.*

T. DOUGHTY to COLONEL EDWARD HARLEY.

1660[-1], March 24. Tothill Street—Regretting that he had been prevented by toothache and a swelled face from waiting upon him. *Signet.*

[Colonel Edward Harley.]

1661, March 25. "Remembrances for my equipage for Knight of the Bath.

For myself. The severall habits are to be provided according to the directions of the printed paper. My taylor, Mr. Pim—who lives in the Strand over against Salisbury Hous—wil direct you to a taylor to mak my robes.

My white bever hat I have bespoken of one Mr. George, a maker of bevers, who lives at Puddle Dock neer Blackfriers, and promised that it should be ready, the latter end of this week.

White feather you must buy for me. Let it be very good.

My sword I have bespoken at Mr. Alsop's, a cutler neer to Fleet Bridge.

The girdle and belt of white leather with gilt buckles you must bespeak of a girdler who uses to work for me, and lives at the corner shop in Fleet Street at the end of Chancery Lane.

Bootes I have bespoke of Mr. Hit, a shoemaker who lives neer the Savoy.

My spurrs and bitts are bespoke at Mr. Milborne's at the Princes Armes over against Clement's Church.

The saddles for my self, for my two squires, for my page, are bespoke at Mr. Tenant's, the King's sadler in the Mewes.

I desire you that my hors which stands at Mr. Baxter's stable at the Haymarket, neer Peccadilly, may be often seen.

The eschocheons I desire you to bespeak of Mr. Smith, a herald paynter in Fleet Street.

For my two squires. I would have them thus habited.

Theyr coates and hose of light colored fine cloth, the doublets and the lining of the coates of cloth of silver. The coates and the hose to be laced with silver lace, and trimmed with taffata scarlet ribbon. Feathers of white and red. Theyr spurrs must be hatched with silver and theyr swords. Theyr belts of buff laced with silver lace.

For my page. A cloak and trunk hose of a wrought sattin of scarlet color, the doublet and the lining of the cloak, of cloth of gold. The cloak and the hose to be laced with a lace of gold and black. Black hat with black and yellow and red feathers. Bootes of black Spanish leather, with spurrs and sword, black and gilt. The spurrs and sword bespeak at Mr. Milborne's and Mr. Alsop's.

The belt must be made sutable to the cloths of the page.

For two footmen. The coates and hose of red cloth laced with black and yellow lace, according to the pattern my taylor will shew. The doublets of yellow tustian laced. Black hats with black and yellow and red feathers.

These liveries must be made large enough for men.

You must make the lik livery for the coachman.

For myself. A doublet and hose of white satten."

Colonel Edward Harley to his wife, Abigail Harley, in Bedford Street, Covent Garden.

[16]61, March 26. Gravesend—I thank God we had a very good passage hither last night. I hope to send the directions for the country from Deal.

The Same to the Same.

[16]61, March 30. Dunkirk—Announcing his safe arrival.

DUNKIRK.

1661, April 1–11—Sir Edward Harley's particular account from December 18–28 up to date. Total payments on his behalf 255,318 livres; total receipts 11,857 livres; balance due to Sir Edward, 6,539 livres.

JOHN TOOKER to COLONEL EDWARD HARLEY.

1661, April 5. Dunkirk—Asking for permission to sell wine, butter, tallow, hides, leather, beef, wheat, malt, oats, &c. to the garrison.

—— RICKERD to his cousin, COLONEL EDWARD HARLEY, at Mr. Richard Stephens's house in Drury Lane near Clare House.

[16]61, April 6—Congratulating him on his marriage.

H. NORWOOD to SIR EDWARD HARLEY.

1661, April 8. Whitehall—"The elections are in all places such as you would wish, yet not without some offers of the Rumpers. Yesterday my Lord Mordant from Windsor did advertise here the towne of Reading would endeavour to make an ill election, but perhaps a little care extraordinary may helpe that allsoe.

Sir John Robinson had the canvas last at Branceford, but the choice terminating in good men, viz., Sir Lancelot Lake and Sir John Allen, the inconvenience is onely personall." I hear Lord Ossory is refused at Bristol. If your stay should cause you to make any other despatch before you leave Dunkirk you cannot more gratify my desires "then by a franke laying your commands" upon me.

DUNKIRK.

1661, April 8—The muster of the Governor's, Sir Robert Harley's, and the Earl of Ossory's regiments and the six troops of horse. *Signed* "Thomas Browne, Commissary."

The SAME.

1661, April 10—Accounts presented by John Tooker for buying and making up soldiers' clothes, and for delivery of the same into the King's store.

The SAME.

1661, April 11–21—An account of the moneys to be paid by the several castelries for their contribution. The castelry of Furnes, 11,195 livres 10 stivers; the castelry of Bourbourg, 1,200 livres; the castelry of Cassel, 15,500 livres; the City of "Gopering," 1,200 livres; the castelry of Belle, 3,250 livres; and the castelry of Berghe, 7,278 livres 1 stiver.

SIR ROBERT HARLEY to his brother [, SIR EDWARD HARLEY].

1661, April 17–27. Dunkirk—Giving garrison news.

Silas Taylor to Colonel Edward Harley, in Bedford Street, Covent Garden.

1661, April 17. Dunkirk—"I make bold to remind you of those engines that are made to quench fire by casting of water." *Enclosing a plan of the Grass Market. Signet.*

E. Earl of Manchester to Colonel Harley.

[1661, April 18]—"I beleeve you neede not be put to make a bowinge, for when we are there we shall nott require itt, and you neede not give any satisfaction to the Herralds. You may justly excuse your not beinge there this nighte by reason of your fall, butt be ready to ride and to take the oathe tomorrow, which will be better then to be absent wholly."

Colonel Roger Alsopp to Sir Edward Harley.

1661, April 24. Dunkirk—"Yesterday's business was managed by your brother Sir Robert's prudence, with much magnificence and as much safety. I doubt not but you will receive the particulars thereof from other hands to your great sattisfaction, but to bee breif, all things were exceedingly well managed. All the garrison, exceptinge those that were upon the guard, were at their arms within the towne, and there was a guard made by those that watched the last night, from the parade to the Key Port. There was a theater erected, at the stathouse, which indeed was very handsomly and nobly done, by the assistance of the Jesuites, where Mr. Forbus made a long and learned speach, acquainteing all that great assembly, as well the magestrates and the inhabitants that were within heareing, and the soldierry party, with those exceeding merceys that the Lord hath beene pleased to conferr upon our nations by the happy restoration of his Majestie to his regall power, and when that learned speach was ended—at the signe given by Sir Robert—there was many hallowes, and great acclamations, made by both the soldiers and inhabitants. The theater was guarded by a handsome guard of musketteers, and forty sergants, which were appointed to guard Sir Robert with the officers and magestrates. When wee came from your Honour's house to the theater, the Jesuites had mounted a fine little troope of their scollars, all disguised, and when Mr. Forbus had done his speach, they approached the theater on horseback, with seaverall speaches writt in Lattin, which they carryed before them in the nature and fashion of scuttchins. There were other of the Jesuites' studients that made seaverall speeches upon the theater, in Lattin, in prays and honour of the King, which were ended with loud shoutts and acclamations by all, and from thence all the officers and magestrates waited upon Sir Robert home, guarded by the sergants aforesaid, where wee found ready, a very magnificent dinner which was well seaconded by good store of fluites for concoction, and all the time of dinner the trumpets sounded, the drums beate, and the bells rung, very much to the sattisfaction of officers, soldiers and inhabitants, and besides your house was guarded by a joyant of five and twenty foote high, with his sword and punyard. and a hallberd as long as himselfe, in his hand, which the soldiers say must bee eldest sergeant to my Lord of Ossery, because hee was cloathed in blew and yallowe, and after dinner all the companyes which were off of the guard—I mean the musketteers—were drawne round the inward wall of the towne, and the pikes were leaft in three seaverall places to guard the towne within.

There were three volleys of small shott very well made, and betwixt every volley, one and fifty guns were fyred, but the small shott went allwayes first, and from thence the companyes beforesaid which were off of the guard, were drawne to their seaverall places, and dranck the wine Sir Robert gave them, which indeed was a good proportion for every one. There were great store of burnefyres in every streete and other fyreworkes, made by Mr. Stint, your fyremaster, and Captaine Smith, which were very well done, soe that the busines of the day was exceedingly well performed, without either trouble or anything of tumoult. John, for the King, being then governour of Fort Royall, managed his parte of that dayes busines with a great deale of handsomnes, those at Mardyke acted their part too, and the Prince of *Terra incognita*, made his guns speake very well for the sollemnisinge of that dayes worke."

DUNKIRK.

1661, April 24—The account of John Tooker with Sir Edward Harley, whereon is due to John Tooker the sum of 143*l.* 4*s.*

The SAME.

1661, April 26—A list of impositions upon beer, wine, brandy, grain, coal, and fish, producing an annual income to the King of 90,000 livres. *Signed* "John Tooker."

The BURGOMASTER, SHERIFFS, and others of the town and castelry of Furnes to [SIR EDWARD HARLEY ?].

1661, April 26. Furnes—Declining to pay the contribution demanded of them, without referring the matter to the Marquis Caracen, Governor of the Province. *French.*

BARON DE WANGHE to [SIR EDWARD HARLEY].

1661, April 28. Brussels—Asking for an interview to discuss the questions concerning the contribution demanded of the town of Berghe, and concerning the entry of goods into Dunkirk. *Signed.*

BARON GRANGES to SIR [EDWARD] HARLEY.

1661, April 28. Brussels—Offering to send deputies shortly to arrange the questions as to the contributions demanded from the castelry of Furnes. *Signed. Signet. French*

EWALD TESSIN to SIR EDWARD HARLEY, in London.

1661, April 29. Dunkirk—Concerning the new fortification works.

The EARL OF SAINT ALBANS to SIR [EDWARD] HARLEY.

1661, May 3. Paris—I am advertised from this Court that orders have come from you, or those that command under you, to the towns of Gravelines and Bourbourg to bring in the arrears of six months contribution within fifteen days, or that you would burn all you

could come near. They are much surprised here at the proceeding, and I ought to expect, considering the quality I hold in his Majesty's service that I shall be spoken to of the matter, which gives me occasion to desire you to let me be informed of as much of the matter as is requisite for me to know. I may add that seeing that the King is in perfect correspondence with this Court that the less haste you make to come to any violence it will be the better. *Signet.*

DUNKIRK.

1661, May 4–14—An abstract of moneys received from Sir John Shaw from January 12–22 up to date, for the use of the garrison. Total, 242,022 livres, 8 stivers, 3 sous.

R. FANE to SIR ROBERT HARLEY, at Dunkirk.

[1661], May 5—When I received yours I was in London, where I saw the King crowned. The Knight of the Golden Fleece gives you many thanks for his belt.

DUNKIRK.

1661, May 6—The muster of the regiment of Sir Edward Harley, with the account of their month's pay, amounting altogether to 1,067*l.* 4*s.* 8*d.*

BARON DE WANGHE to SIR [EDWARD] HARLEY.

1661, May 7. Berghe—Asking that Mr. Delaval and a third person might be sent to confer with him for the purpose of settling the matters in dispute between them. *Signed.*

SIR ROBERT HARLEY to his brother, SIR EDWARD HARLEY.

1661, May 8–18. Dunkirk—Since my last I received the enclosed from Paris. The matter of the contribution remains in the same state. *Signet.*

The SAME to the SAME.

1661, May 9–19. Dunkirk—Asking him to give directions for the bottling of some wine belonging to him which was at the Tower *Signet.*

THOMAS DELAVAL to [SIR EDWARD HARLEY].

1661, May 10. Dunkirk—A long account of an interview with Baron de Wanghe concerning the payment of the contributions.

PETER LAINS to SIR EDWARD HARLEY.

1661, May 10—Receipt for the sum of 1,798 livres, 15 stivers for wine delivered between June 25, 1660, and May 10, 1661.

SIR EDWARD HARLEY to LADY HARLEY, at the Golden Boy, in Bedford Street, Covent Garden.

1661, May 13. Dover—"I can hardly gayn ink enough to tel you that I am, through mercy, wel come hither, and that I long til I shall be

agayn welcome to you. If I had as much ink as would swel the channel that runs on the other side my window, it would ebbe before it could satisfy my afections to tel you how much and how sincerely you are beloved."

Sir John Shaw to Sir Edward Harley.

1661, May 16. London—I doubt not but that this will find you safely arrived in London. I have sent over my servant Daniel van de Per by whom you will receive this letter. I must crave your favour in letting him receive the contributions, whereby he may have the benefit thereof for his subsistence.

The Earl of Saint Albans to [Sir Edward Harley].

1661, May 16. Paris—I am glad you judge it reasonable to suspend any further demand of the contribution of Bourbourg until the matter be regulated between our master and this King. I find that here they think this pretension quite void of justice in time of peace, though they confess that there was an agreement for this contribution during the war, whilst the English and they were engaged against the Spaniards.

Baron de Wanghe to [Thomas] Delaval.

1661, May 28. Berghe—Informing him that he had full powers from the Marquis and the Council to arrange all the matters in dispute. *Signed.*

Dunkirk.

1661, May 20–30—Sir Edward Harley's particular account from April 11–21 up to date, leaving a balance due from him of 2,340 livres, 8 stivers, 8 sous.

Sir Robert Harley to his brother, Sir Edward Harley.

1661, [May] 20. Your lodgings—"Yesterday in the evening I came to towne. That night I wayted on the General, and found him kind, and other wayes tempered, as you had told me. He told me as a secret that the Irish were designed for Portugal and I heerd the same this morning from Majer Verwood. This morning I wayted on the Chanceller, delivered your letter, which he putt in his pockett and did not reade; there were divers in the roome. I told him I desired him to consider yf it would be for the King's service yf you had some time given you to make your accounts and fitt the garrison to be putt into another's hand. This I sayde twice or thrice. He made me noe answer at all but went into the great roome to signe writings. When he had done, as he was going out, I spake to him. He sayde he had soe much businesse, he could understand noething, but before he was passed thorough the hall, he called for me, and tooke me by the hand, soe to his coach. I had opertunity of discourse with him, which was full of very great respect to you and promised that you should have some time given you to make up your accounts. He sayde it was but reasonable, but withal he sayde he should see the King this day. He did likewise apoynt me to come to him in the evening to speake about you. From him, I went

to your lady, whoe with the children are very wel. Shee is gone to Backwel about the businesse you wrote about. Thence I went to the General whoe brought me to the King who receaved me very gratiously and kindly. There was my Lord Muscry, my Lord Manchester and Bath were very kind to me. The King did reade your letter to the General, and yours to him. The King discoursed with me much upon the designe, and in conclusion agreed with me that the werke should take on old Fort Lyon, and the valley be made use of. Which resolution had held and orders accordingly beene given, but upon the Duke of Yorkes comeing in—whoe was very kind to me—falling into discourse, the expectation of Sir Bernard's returne did keepe from a resolution, for that his opinion wil sway. I am told that Rutterford hath his commission after al. I spake to the General to speake to the King as I desired him before, that you might have at least fourteen dayes time given you for fitting your selfe to start from the garrison, or rather to fitt your garrison to be delivered to another. He bid me speake to the King myselfe, for the King being dressing himselfe, rose and went to a corner of the roome with me. I spake to him for some time, nameing fourteen dayes. He spake very kindly of you and sayde you should come, that he would consider of it. I spake to Secretary Morrice to speake to the King concerning your haveing some time. This is all the account I cann give you. The King often repeated that he would have the contribution payed, and I beleeve expects you to doe something in it. I cannot give you any thing more cleare, some pretend to assure that Rutterford is gone to visitt his regiment, and cannot returne in fourteen dayes. My advice is that you should provide as if Rutterford were to come next day after this, but I thinke I shal gett time, for I have taken away the reports of the Spaniard falling upon Dunkirke. It may be there will be consideration in things, yett Muscry and the Duke of York apprehend that the Irish lye in danger, and would have them come nearer Dunkirke. I will use al the endeavour possible for time, but provide against it."

Sir Edward Harley to Lady Harley.

1661, May 20–30. Dunkirk—I hope to see you shortly, as the person designed to succeed me is come hither already.

Abigail, Lady Harley to Sir Edward Harley.

[1661], May 21—I have received yours with the greatest joy as it brought me word of your safe arrival. Your absence is much more grievous to me than it was at first. All that I have to comfort myself with is the hope that this is the last time you will have occasion to be so long away. I shewed Sir Robert what you wrote concerning the wine. He thinks it best to sell both, for they will neither hold good in the barrel nor bottled. The children are both well. *Signet.*

Sir Edward Harley.

1661, May 22. Dunkirk—Certificate that Severin Odenhoff, a German, who had served for three years as Lieutenant of Volunteers, had been dismissed the King's service for refusing to take the oath of supremacy, and that he had always conducted himself both in time of peace and war generously and gallantly and to the complete satisfaction of everybody. *Copy.*

DUNKIRK.

1661, May 22—An account of six months' contributions payable by the castelries and towns contributable to the garrison, namely the castelries of Cassel, Bell, Bourbourg, Berghe, and Furnes, and the town of Pepperinghe. Total 39,623 livres, 11 stivers.

ALDERMAN EDWARD BACKWELL to SIR EDWARD HARLEY.

1661, May 23. London—Sending his servant Thomas Rowe to receive payment of 2,000*l.* in pistolets.

SIR WILLIAM MORICE to SIR EDWARD HARLEY, at Dunkirk.

[1661,] May 23—Enclosing an order from the King to deliver up the town, fort, and stores at Dunkirk to the succeeding governor. *Seal of arms.*

DUNKIRK.

1661, May 25—An account of moneys received for the use of Sir Edward Harley's regiment of foot from the 4th June 1660 to the 3rd June 1661. Total 9556*l.* 3*s.* 10*d.*

The SAME.

Same date—The account of Nathaniel Roberts, apothecary, of money received and disbursements made for medicaments dispensed to the soldiers between the 27th May 1660 and the 3rd June 1661. Total disbursed 1,246*l.* 17*s.* Total received 519*l.* 1*s.* 10*d.* Arrears between the 20th June 1658 and 27th May 1660, 662*l.* 6*s.* 10*d.*

FRANCIS CONWAY to his cousin, SIR EDWARD HARLEY, living near Covent Garden, at the end of Chandos Street, near the New Exchange.

1661, June 3. Dunkirk—The enclosed was given me by your Lady, but it was my misfortune to arrive at Dunkirk, as I am told, when you lay in Calais Road. The very next tide after you departed from Mardyke, I arrived there. It is a great misfortune for me that you have departed from this garrison, and I find divers other officers do very much bemoan their condition for your departure. *Signet.*

JOHN PEIRSON to [SIR EDWARD HARLEY].

1661, June 4–14. Dunkirk—Your safe arrival in England was joyful news here and long expected by many sad hearts. After my return hither I waited upon Lord "Retorfort" to give him your respects.

The DUKE OF ALBEMARLE to SIR EDWARD TURNER, Speaker of the House of Commons.

1661, July 4. Cockpit—"After I had admitted the secluded members of the Long Parliament to sitt with the others, in order to the calling of the last parliament, I found my self involved in many and great dificultyes because they that satt before them had modelled the

army in England to their owne principles of a Commonwealthe govern ment; and although I had devided the quarters of the troopes into very distinct stations, yet their correspondance was such that I was much distracted in my endeavors for the peace and settlement of the nation and put to seaverall and differant postures in the manageing of them, I being forced to use the force of power to some, and friendship and fair promises of security to others, till I had at last reduced matters to such a consistancy that all were removed from command and trust in arms, that would not engage to acquiess in whatsoever the then succeeding parliament should act. Att this conjuncture of tyme, noe man was soe capable to obstruct my designes as Sir Arthur Hesilrige, who had in his owne emediate command, the government of Berwick, Carlisle, Newcastle and Tynemouth with a regiment of foot and one of the best regiments of hors in the army, and had an influence upon all the rest of the regiments in England, he haveing had the chief hand in moddelling the regiments before my comeing into England. He was very jealous of the intended revolution of government to his Majestye's advantage, and came to me to discover his apprehensions, saying he perceived all tended to the restitution of the King, and that there would thereby ensue a ruine to his person, family, and fortune; to which I tould him if he would engage to me to goe home to his owne howse and live quietly there, I would undertake to secure his life and estate. Wherupon he did soe engage, and shortly after upon Colonel Lambert's defection, when there was soe great a disposition to mutyny in the army, and his conjunction with him might have hazarded all, he then alsoe declyned all action and adheared to his engagement made to me, and upon my letter to him, freely delivered up his garrisons to my Lord of Carlisle, and his regiment of hors to my Lord Faulconbridge. I confess the command I had at that tyme of the army and the strength of the kingdome was but a possessary and noe legall power, and what I did must be submitted to his Majestye's gracious clemency and favour to me. My unwillingnes to hazard his Majestye's restitution by engageing in blood induced me to venter further in the use of it then perhaps some may thinke well of, but I know in matters of soe great importance, second councells would be too late, and therefore I chose to leave as little as I could to the uncertainety of the event. Att the request of Sir Arthur Hesilrige's freinds, I am desired to give you the diversion of this narrative, which I doe not think meet to send to you in your publique capacity to be communicated to the howse, but as a private person, that from heare you may be informed of the substance of what passed betwixt me and that unfortunate man, which I leave to you to use as your judgment shall thinke fitt." *Copy.*

The King to Major Hinton, at Dunkirk.

1661, September 7. Whitehall—Accepting his resignation of his command at Dunkirk. *Copy.*

[Sir Edward Harley?]

[16]61, October 10—A note "of my master's linen."

Lord Rutherford.

1661, November 15. Dunkirk—Certificate that Lieutenant Robert Gross of Lord Falkland's regiment had received of him 15*l.* and no more on account of his arrears since his coming to that government. *Signed. Signet.*

SIR EDWARD HARLEY.

1661, November 18—Certificate that Mr. Patrick Forbes was from August 1660 to June 1, 1661, preacher to his regiment of foot at Dunkirk and also preacher to a Dutch church in Dunkirk, which duties he performed with learning, diligence, and piety. His salary was 300*l.* a year. *Signet.*

JEREMIAH SMYTH to SIR ROBERT HARLEY, at Dunkirk.

1661, November 20. Burkin—Asking him to take care of all the things belonging to Doctor Pockley lately dead, on behalf of his brother Captain John Pockley. *Signet.*

SAMUEL DAVENPORT to SIR ROBERT HARLEY, at Dunkirk.

1661, November 22. Lytton—According to your commands I have provided a parcel of linen and diapers, but have retarded sending the same till I know your pleasure. There is a report that you are going to Tangier, which if it is so, you will do well to take some quantities of linens with you, for you will find none there and this country furnishes almost all the world, so that if you please to employ a sum of money in that commodity it will produce considerable profit.

ANDREW, LORD RUTHERFORD to the EARL OF PETERBOROUGH.

1661, December 9—Certificate of payment to Sir Robert Harley's regiment of their full pay from the 12th August to the 9th December exclusive. *Signed. Signet.*

COLONEL MATTHEW KINGWELL to SIR ROBERT HARLEY.

1661[-2], January 14. Downs—Giving a bad report of the condition of his regiment.

JAMES LAWRENCE, Mayor of Hereford, to SIR EDWARD HARLEY.

[16]61[-2], January 15. Hereford—I have acquainted the city with your great pains in relation to the weirs. We understand there is to be a farthings office erected, and that there is some one seeking already for the uttering of them in this city. We had the farthings which private persons here set forth, presented as a grievance at the last Michaelmas Sessions and we intended to call them in and to set one piece in the swordbearer's name, the profit whereof we intended for the poor, who multiply upon us this dear year. If there be any such office I presume it must be tolerated by Parliament; if so, we desire that the swordbearer may officiate here, being accountable unto the officer in chief. *Signet.*

THOMAS BULLOCK to ——

1661[-2], January 26. Dunkirk—Regretting that he had lost his and Lord Townshend's favour, and denying the charges brought against him.

PETER SAINTHILL to SIR EDWARD HARLEY, in London.

1661–2, January 28. Dunkirk—I desire my service may be presented to your brother and Sir William Waller. I am sorry I could not give a better account of his son to the latter. *Signet.*

The EARL OF PETERBOROUGH to SIR ROBERT HARLEY.

1661[–2], January. From the *Henry*—The assurance of your recovery was particularly agreeable to me. "You have heare come under my inspection, a regiment of the most estimable I have knowne, and that is governed by sober, able and discreete officers. From me I assure you thay shall finde all the care and consideration thay can expect." *Signet.*

The KING to SIR ROBERT HARLEY.

1662, March 21. The Palace of Westminster—Privy seal for the payment of 2,875*l.* 9*s.* 4*d.* to Sir Robert Harley for two months' pay to his regiment of foot now in Tangier. *Copy. Signed* "Watkins."

VERE HARCOURT to SIR ROBERT HARLEY, at a strongwater house over against Cary House in Tothill Street.

[16]61[–2], March 24. York House—On business.

MARY FITZJAMES to her sister, LADY HARLEY, in Bow Street, Covent Garden

[16]62, April 2. Leverton—"If I mighte advice you I woulde not by no meanes have you venture your boy in a coach, for I veryly beeleive it was my first boye's death, and lately my cosine Churchill brought downe a boy in a coach, which was never well after it, but died. A liter will carry him and his nurse withoute troubell or danger." I came home from Fairfield yesterday where I left my sister well and merry. Her lying in will hinder our journey into Gloucestershire as I cannot be out twice in a summer. *Signet.*

COLONEL T. HINTON to SIR ROBERT HARLEY, in Westminster.

1662, April 4. Hayton, near Ludlow—I shall most readily accept the post of Lieutenant-Colonel of your regiment. *Signet.*

JOHN BRAYNE to his kinsman, SIR ROBERT HARLEY.

1662, April 6. Little Deane—Asking for payment of a debt of 40*l.* *Signet.*

COLONEL T. HINTON to SIR ROBERT HARLEY, in London.

1662, April 8. Upper Hayton, near Ludlow—By the last post I wrote to you of my readiness to serve you. I expect your brother to be in the country this week, and when I have waited upon him, in two or three days more I can dispatch all the rest of my business. *Signet.*

Sir Edward Harley to his wife [Lady Harley].

1662, April 11. Bow Street—"I thank God you and your little caravan pased so wel as to where Jack left you. This I hope wil find you so tomorrow night at Oxford." As soon as you come home bid Shilton bring you all my rents.

The Same to the Same.

[16]62, April 12. Fish Yard—I hope this will meet you almost at home. I pray God bless Robin and give us a speedy meeting. My service to my sister and brother. I pray God bless Brill and Martha.

Colonel Tobias Bridge to Sir Edward Harley, at the Three Black Lions in the Old Bailey.

1662, April 13. Dunkirk—On business.

Margaret Kingwell to Sir Robert Harley.

1662, April 15—"You are desired to make your interest with the Councell that the buisness of your regiment may goe well. Tomorow in the afternoone wilbe good or bad for you. There is much hope that it will suckseede." Interest has already been made in the Council with the Dukes of Ormond and Albemarle, the Lord Chancellor, and Lord Southampton. "You were pleased to promise a thousand to any man that would accomplish this buisnes for you; I wish you will give five thousand if it be don, if not you will never be troubled for anything." I most heartily acknowledge all your former favours, but I cannot be reconciled to you for your wretched neglect of your regiment, I have suffered so much in it. Do not slight this because a woman gives you notice of it, for it is really true that tomorrow, if the Council, sits it will be heard. *Signet.*

T. Earl of Southampton to the Commissioners of Customs.

1662, April 18. Southampton House—Directions to let the following articles, sent for the use of the King's garrison at Tangier, pass out free of custom. Three hundred quarters of oats, a hundred quarters of peas, twenty quarters of oatmeal, a hundred quarters of wheat, forty tuns of beer, thirty chaldrons of coal, two hundred dozen of shoes, a hundred dozen of stockings, five hundred hats, twenty dozen blankets, twenty dozen coverlets, a hundred cases of strong waters, two tuns of brandy, two thousand "wooll flocks" and the sum of 5,000*l.* in dollars. *Copy.*

Sir Edward Harley to Lady Harley, at Bucknill.

[16]62, April 19. Fish Yard—I hope you are well with all your company at Bucknill. I cannot yet tell you when we shall adjourn. Shortly I hope. My Lord Herbert, our Lord Lieutenant hath this week lost his only son and child.

The Burgomaster and Sheriffs of the town of Dunkirk to Sir Edward Harley, in London.

1662, April 29, new style. Dunkirk—Concerning arrears of payments due to him in respect of his third share in the excise during his governorship. *Signed* "Rugghe." *French.*

PIERRE FAULCONNIER to [SIR EDWARD HARLEY].

1662, April 29, new style. Dunkirk—On the same business as the preceding letter. *French.*

COLONEL TOBIAS BRIDGE to SIR EDWARD HARLEY, in London.

1662, April 20. Dunkirk—Enclosing the preceding letters. *Signet.*

SIR EDWARD HARLEY to [LADY HARLEY].

[16]62, April 22. Westminster—Yesterday it was said that the Queen had landed, but it proved untrue. The Lord Chamberlain and the Lord Steward are going to Portsmouth.

THOMAS BLAYNEY to THOMAS HARLEY, at Bucknill.

1662, April 23. Kineham.—On business. *Signet.*

CAPTAIN S. BROOKES to SIR ROBERT HARLEY, in London.

1662, April 26. Dunkirk—Colonel Kingwell has broken his promise with me exceedingly concerning the charges I was at for your regiment. If you will send me the smallest letter to Lord Rutherford to give me what you think fit out of the arrears, I am sure his Lordship will do me all right desirable.

SIR EDWARD HARLEY to LADY HARLEY, at Bucknill.

1662, April 26. Fish Yard, Westminster—"Yours by the post hath so many kind lines that would perswade me to love an old woman indeed; and were I to begin, would teach me what caus I had to love you. You injure me if you doe not beleeve your letters the most pleasing things in the world to me while you are at that distance, therefore forbear to write to me if you can find in your heart. This I write that you may triumph to be better natured than a friend you had in Flanders, but the same person bids me tel you that never never more must you have such advantage." Mr. Cox has helped me to a coachman who will go towards you on Tuesday, "and so may possibly a friend of yours." *Signet.*

The SAME to the SAME.

1662, April 29. Fish Yard, Westminster—"I did not think your hot fit of writing would end so quickly. I received not a line from you by the last post. I trust no ill accident held back your hand." The bill for [Wye] passed the Lords this day. No news yet of the Queen. The children's "stayes" are not to be heard of. *Signet.*

A[BIGAIL] HARLEY to SIR EDWARD HARLEY, at Westminster.

1662, April 30. Bucknill—You have already received by so good a hand an account of my Lady and your children that my mention of them were but an impertinency. We want nothing here to make this place pleasant but your presence which is heartily wished for. *Signet.*

LORD HERBERT to SIR EDWARD HARLEY, at Westminster.

1662, April 30. Badminton—I thank God I found on my arrival here my boy alive, though we do not look upon him yet as out of danger. I am sorry the bill for Wye makes no more haste in the House of Lords. I doubt whether the patron it now hath will advance its interest much. *Signet.*

RICHARD MORE to SIR ROBERT HARLEY.

1662, April 30—Concerning the arrears due to his regiment. *Signet.*

FRANK BUTTON to her brother-in-law, SIR EDWARD HARLEY, at Bucknill.

1662, May 6—Demanding a share of the jewels which had belonged to her own mother, and which her father had left in Lady Button's custody, and also demanding her share of the lands bought by her father and subsequently sold by Lady Button and Sir Edward Harley. *Signet.*

MORDAUNT WEBSTER and JOHN GILES to SIR EDWARD HARLEY, in London.

1662, May 9—We are sorry to have to report the death of Captain Atherton, who was shot in the thigh in a skirmish with the Moors and died in three days. This part of Africa is very fertile, and wants nothing but English industry to improve it. As for a more particular account of Tangier we question not but that you will have it from better hands.

"Here are many honourers of Sir Robert, who thinke him long." *Signet.*

COLONEL T. HINTON to SIR ROBERT HARLEY.

1662, May 13. Bucknill—Offering to serve him in any capacity.

SILAS TAYLOR to SIR ROBERT HARLEY, at Westminster.

1662, May 23. Dunkirk—Complaining of the ill behaviour of Captain Smith. *Signet.*

SIR JOHN SHAW to SIR EDWARD HARLEY, at Westminster.

1662, June 6. Winchester Street—Being informed that you are come to town, I trouble you with a request to give Mr. Daniel van de Per a note to Lord Rutherford stating that I am entitled to the sum of 887*l.* 2*s.* 6*d.* out of the moneys paid to him for the garrison at Dunkirk.

SIR E. H[ARLEY] to LORD RUTHERFORD, Governor of Dunkirk.

1662, June 12. Westminster—Certificate that at the time he delivered up the governorship of Dunkirk the sum of 887*l.* 2*s.* 6*d.* was due to Sir John Shaw on account of moneys paid in England. *Copy.*

Sir Edward Harley to Lady Harley, at Bucknill.

1662, June 14. Westminster—"I have not yet heard from you since I parted. I suppose you were lazy. I left al your friends wel at Estington, but I must tel you my good sister Stephens made me so much a stranger that you wil be much ashamed unles you play the housewife better to provide yourself to enterteyn your friends. I have not seen my sister Bromfield yet, for she went out of town to visit your aunt. The ladle I doubt is gone a wrong way; it is charged upon Jack the foot-boy." I hope the things at Drury Lane are safe till carriage is ready. There are no Herefordshire wains in town. I met them on the road going down. I spoke with one Gough who lives at Fawn-hope, four miles from Hereford; he offered to carry hence to Hereford for 5*s*. a hundred.

Sir Henry Vane was this day beheaded on Tower Hill. Lambert was also condemned, but not likely to be executed.

A. Harley to [her sister-in-law,] Lady Harley, at Bucknill.

1662, June 14. Bath—"We are com very well hither and are setled as if it were for longer then we hope to stay heere. I heartily wish the galants at Easton were gone that you might have company. Miss presents her duty to your selfe, and loves brother and sister. She is so taken with looking about that I cannot yet injoy her company."

Postscript. "I doubt nurs will be angry if I do not send her master a kiss, tho it would be too much rudeness to desire such a favour by your Ladyshipp." *Signet.*

Sir Edward Harley to Lady Harley, at Bucknill.

1662, June 17.—Westminster—I have not heard from you by this post. If you write not I know not what it means. I have dispatched much of my business to-day, and shall make haste to see you. My brothers both send their service. *Signet.*

The Same to the Same.

1662, June 24. Westminster—My company is not so much wanted now that you have my sister Stephens, yet I will make haste to thank her for her kindness. My brothers send their service.

The Same to the Same.

1662, July 1. Westminster—I doubt whether I shall be able to see you this week though I hope to come out of town. I have not seen Lady Vere nor do I intend to, because I would not prolong the time from coming to you. If my sister Stephens is with you, present my service to her. Her children were well on Saturday last, and so was Mr. Cholmeley to-day, who is well settled in his place about the Queen.

The Same to the Same.

[16]62, July 5—I am doubly disappointed this week of seeing you and hearing from you. "I dare put it to a jury of any good wives in

England whether I have not reason to quarrel. It is wel for mee that you have some things to inquire after; by that I know you are wel able to write so as nobody but your own cuckold can read."

THEODORE RUSSELL to SIR ROBERT HARLEY, in Tothill Street, Westminster.

1662, July 22. Besia—Enquiring as to what had happened to a sum of 200*l.* which he had sent to Mr. Backwell by Captain Grant, for the use of his mother. *Signet.*

THOMAS DOUGHTY to SIR EDWARD HARLEY, at Bucknill.

[16]62, August 1—Asking for news of him and all his family. *Signet.*

JOHN CHAMPANTS to SIR ROBERT HARLEY.

1662, August 15. London—The parties with whom I am to treat about your business could not give me a meeting today, but tomorrow they promise not to fail and then I doubt not but the whole tallies will pass at eighteen per cent. but not under, at which rate my friend in the office will take one and pay the money on the sealing of the assignment. He tells me Mr. Strange is resolved to take another. *Signet.*

The SAME to [the SAME].

1662, August 16. Excise Office, London—When Mr. Strange told me this morning that he was to have all your tallies and that he would have a letter from you in the afternoon for me to deliver them to him, I went to my friend and told him that you had disposed of them; by which I have put myself out of a capacity, at present, to serve you in the business.

NICHOLAS TAYLOR to SIR EDWARD HARLEY.

1662, August 16. Presteign—Thanking him for kindness shewn to the bearer, his brother. *Signet.*

JOHN CHAMPANTS to SIR ROBERT HARLEY, at Westminster.

1662, August 19. London—I doubt not but that I shall procure ready money from my friend for all your tallies, and payment upon sealing of the assignment.

The SAME to the SAME.

Same date—I was just now with my friend but he desires to postpone the business till this evening.

The SAME to the SAME.

1662, August 21. Aldersgate Street—Again postponing the same business.

Sir Robert Harley.

1662, August 25—Acknowledgment of the receipt by Sir Robert Harley of a privy seal for 2,875*l.* 9*s.* 4*d.* partly paid in money and partly in clothes in part of the arrears due to his regiment, serving in Tangier; "which cloathes and money are now aboard the good ship called the *Saint Lukes*, merchant, which now lyes at Gravesend with which ship I shall sett sayle for Tanger with the first good wind." *Copy.*

The Same.

Same date—Bill of lading of goods shipped on board the *Saint Lukes*, merchant of London, for Tangier. *Signed* "Joseph Haddock."

The Same.

Same date—Licence to Sir Robert Harley, in consequence of his services to the King at the time of his restoration, to pass and repass about his affairs in the country or to the cities of London and Westminster and back again without let or molestation. *Signed* "Albemarle; Clarendon, C.; W. Compton." *Two copies, both signed.*

Lord Herbert to Major Humphry Cornewall.

1662, September 2. London—Though I cannot imagine it should need, yet I cannot but accompany Sir Robert Harley with this letter to let you know the esteem the King and all his friends have of him. "This letter is occasiond by a report that you should use some threates of securing him if he should come into the country, which I must confesse I cannot give credit to, no more then I can that you should have used Sir Edward Harley or any belonging to him with any disrespect." *Signet.*

Lord Herbert, Lord Lieutenant [of Herefordshire] to Sir Thomas Tompkyns.

1662, September 18. London—Informing him that the King had approved of his appointment as deputy lieutenant for the County.

Sir Edward Harley to Lady Harley, at Bucknill.

[16]62, October 3. Chipping Norton—I came well to the Hundred House last night, and as well hither this evening. I hope to give as good an account from Fish Yard by the next post. My service to my brother and sister.

The Same to [the Same].

[16]62, October 14. Fish Yard—I parted just now with Sir Henry Yelverton and Hugh Cholmley at Court, where the good news is the hopes of the Queen being with child.

John Champants to Sir Robert Harley, in Tothill Street.

1662, October 14. Bartholomew Lane—Recommending a female servant "vertuous and discreete, but not soe handsome as I did apprehend" to serve in his family.

The Same to the Same.

1662, October 15—Informing him that he had agreed with a hoy to take his goods on board ship that day.

Sir Edward Harley to Lord Townshend.

1662, October 16—Guaranteeing him the repayment of a sum of 400*l.* owing to him from Sir Robert Harley in case he should not return to repay it himself. *Copy in Sir Robert Harley's handwriting.*

Sir Edward Harley to Lady Harley, at Essington.

1662, October 21. St. George in Ross—"It is my birthday, therefore I am bound to enterteyn you. This may come as seasonably to you as it doeth from mee, to divert after dinner or supper. I would gladly have spent this day with you, but I was content it should pass as the yeares it hath summed up have for the most part done before it, in labor and travel and recreation, in sunshine and showres, upon land and water, in embracing my dearest comforts, in parting with them, in health, and in the remembrances of mortality. Thirty and eight yeares which have passed over my head have perhaps sprinkled more grey hayres there then in many others; but there is not a white stroke there that I would part with, for there is not one I could be without. I have tasted of many troubles, but my God hath given mee alwayes a cup running over with mercy. One letter of the name of Jesus Christ allowed mee as my Lord, is more then a world of comfort. Next to the mercies of my soul you come in, and then the children, and then a wonder that God should bestow so many favors upon so mean a servant, and then an adoration of free grace, which is above all. I find in this hous a guest, a gentleman of above a hundred yeares, come to tak phisic. Sure De Repas can tel you of a conestable of France that about the same age brake his sword fighting in a battle, and dyed not before he layd him who shot him upon the ground with a blow from his broken blade. A mayd of this house professes tis better to goe much sooner out of a wicked world, accompanied with good works. I think she speakes too wel to be beleeved, but it is certayn true joy dwells above the clouds. Wee only tak up sometimes some of the cast cloathes of joy and thence is al our pride. I wil not tel you how many liquors I have tasted here. It is enough that I have regaled myself with my sister Stephens sweetmeates. If you cannot read my long letter send for the blind miller for I am sure I have spelled right."

The Same to the Same, at Essington.

[16]62, October 23. Bucknill—I send you the linen cloth for my sister Stephens. I think you would that the "whited peece should not be rent. The hair cloth for my brother is not ready; some shall be provided for him as soon as may be. I found my brother indifferent, the children very wel. Robin newly furnished with a fore tooth below, but nurs hath written you that newes. He is very merry, his face is ful of heates, I suppose more teeth are coming. We have caus to bless God he toothes so wel."

Sir Robert Harley to Sir Edward Harley.

1662, October 31. Dover—Asking him to remind Lord Willoughby of his promise to get his patent out. *Signet.*

The Same to the Same.

Same date and place—I found Lord Rutherford here going to Dunkirk, and also Sir John Finch and Doctor Baynes staying for a wind for Calais, going to Florence. There has been great alarm here these two nights of a plot. *Signet.*

The Same to the Same.

Same date and place—On private business. *Signet.*

The Same to the Same.

Same date and place—A long letter developing a scheme for trading between the West India Islands and the Spanish colonies. *Signet.*

The Same to the Same.

Same date and place—If you send anything to me to Barbados I shall make you the best return I can; but I think your best way will be to send a little in one vessel, as men or horses. One horse and two men is a good adventure in one vessel. Next to men and horses, provisions are the best, as beef, pork, peas, biscuit, flour, and meal. Of men, the best are those that have some trade as potters, coopers, joiners, carpenters, masons, bricklayers and makers, smiths, &c. Mr. John Champants will direct you to whom anything you send to Barbados should be consigned. *Signed.*

The Same to the Same.

1662, November 1. Dover—Giving directions for the consignment on his account of some cider and cheese to Mr. Henry Feake, at the Indian Bridge in Barbados. *Signet.*

The Same to the Same.

Same date and place—Giving directions for the payment of certain moneys. *Signet.*

The Same to the Same.

Same date and place—Enclosing a catalogue of books and instruments which he desired should be bought for him, and a catalogue of his books made on the previous 19th of June. *Signet.*

The Same to the Same.

1662, November 3. Dover—I have been here now eight days, and I thank God the wind has been contrary all the while, for had it not been so I must have left all my letters to you undone. Now I hope the wind will come about to the East as I am ready to go aboard. *Signet.*

The Same to the Same.

Same date and place—Giving him directions for secret correspondence and the keys to two ciphers. *Signet.*

The Same to the Same.

Same date and place—"I should acquaint you that the Duke of Albemarle told me that he with some others were takeing out a patent from the King to settle a plantation in the West Indies, on that part which adjoynes to Virginia next to Florida, and, as I take it, is upon the river of Roanocque. I cannot tell wether in some mapps it be not called St. Crux river, on Port Royal. It lyes almost opposite to the Bermudas, but a little westward of it. Some fewe English here planted upon it and without doubt is a place capable of being the best plantation in al the Indies. My Lord Willoughby cann give you some account of it, but I thinke the Lord Duke a better, for he told me that a minister had binne with him that was lately come thence. Sir George Cartwright is engaged in the thing. They are to have men out of Virginia and Newe England. They propose to gett downe at first with three thousand planters, which they may doe safely if they wil laye out money enough, which I something doubt. I desire you would enquire further into it, and lett me knowe what is proposed, and the particular place, and that you would give the General thanks for offering the government and whole management of the affayre and place unto me. The comodities of the place is most excellent in al things without dispute, and, lyeing soe neare to Newe England and Virginia, cannot want, and if once it be on its leggs, it will be the roade of trade from Newe England, Virginia, and al those northerne plantations to al the westerne plantations as Barbadoes, etc., which is a very great trade already. The inconveniences wil be only one: the doubt that it must be putt to fight with the Spaniards and with the natives. The last are the most warlike people of al that world, and have defended themselfes against the Spaniard, given him divers defeates, and still are in warr with the neighbouring provinces of the Spaniards; and the Spaniards likewise though they cannot possesse it themselfes, have cutt off totally divers colonies of the Frenches, and, which most is to be feared, divers English have binne cutt off by the natives, and as more particularly some sent by the Lord Willoughby and others, whoe were sent along with an Indian great man whom I did see, whom some merchants perswaded to come into England—in Oliver's dayes—to make a peace with al the Indians and the English, which, when he went backe, he promised to doe, but some by treachery he cutt off and the ship hardly escaped. Though this was on the poynt of the headland of Florida, yet it wil reach I doubt to al English colonies."

James Haydocke to Sir Edward Harley.

[16]62, November 8—Giving a statement of his principles. *Signet.*

Sir Robert Harley to his brother, Sir Edward Harley.

1662, November 12. Dover—"This morning I was awakened with the comeing of the sea into the towne of Dover. I cannot judge but that one such other tyde wil wholly destroy the towne and harbor. You know Dover lyeth almost east and west so that a south east or south west wind is most dangerous for bringing in the sea, but the wind was nowe at north west which makes a calme water in this roade, soe that it was a very extraordinary thing to have the sea so tempestuous, besides it was noe spring tyde, yet it was an higher tyde and the sea

more raging then ever was known in the memory of man. It was an hideous and portending thing. I pray God we may learne the voyce of these things."

The Same to the Same.

1662, November 17. Dover—"I have binne divers yeares troubled about a thing which I did never speake of, unlesse once to you, but it pleased God that this day since I did write to you, I was satisfied you were pleased to give me of my father's a seale which I have and the order which he did comonly weare, which these divers yeares I knewe not what became of it, for I did use alwayes to carry it about me. This day, Harry Taylor, partly with compunction, partly excusing it. told me that when I was sent by Richard to the Tower, he officiously before I did rise one day, tooke what papers I had out of my pocket, and amongst them but I thinke only a paper with the order in it which he appoynted his wife to deliver me before I came out of towne, which shee did not. Therefore I desire you to send to her for it. Shee lives at the Crooked Billet over against Hill, the Quakeing Cooke, upon the Mall Bancke, Westminster."

The Same to the Same, at Westminster.

Same date and place—I am glad that you are in town and that I shall see you. I do not think your intentions of coming will be hindered by the wind, which veers more to the west than the east. *Signet.*

Sir Edward Harley to Lady Harley, at Bucknill.

[16]62, November 18. Westminster—Tell my brother that certainly there was a vile plot of the fanatics. Much of it is discovered, and I hope the neck is broken.

Sir Robert Harley to Sir Edward Harley.

1662, November 18. Dover—Asking him to obtain from Mr. Pett, commissioner for the Navy, the dimensions of and directions for building several men-of-war, a galley to row and sail, the King's best pleasure boat, and a ship for cargo fit for the West India trade. *Signet.*

The Same to the Same.

1662, November 20. Deal—The wind presents fair and I am loath to lose the opportunity. I pray God to bless you and yours, and give us a comfortable meeting.

The Same to [the Same].

Same date and place—The wind being northerly I hope you will be at Dover today and therefore will not go aboard here but at Dover in hope of seeing you. Lord Rutherford tells me that he has particularly mentioned in his orders that you should be paid all your arrears.

The Same to the Same.

Same date. Dover—On money matters. *Signet.*

The Same to the Same.

Same date and place—"The wind fayre, ready to goe aboord." *Signet.*

The Same to the Same.

1662, November 25. Dover—The three days' storm I was in has made a great alteration in my bodily constitution. It may be for the best, if not, I will provide the best I can that you may have a good account of my things. I very much desire that the *Rubina* may be sent after us to Surinam.

The wind is fair and I am ready to go aboard, but the weather is very rainy, and I doubt whether we shall do more than make the Isle of Wight. *Signet.*

Between the lines is written in sympathetic ink according to the directions given in the second letter of the 3rd November. "Being here I have learned that there is most certainly a very great designe amongst the fanaticks, Commonwealth men, and those kind of people, and they are resolved of some great and desperate action. This I have from a great sectary in this ship whoe was pressed in poynt of conscience to stay to be instrumental. Many other wayes I finde it. I begge you to consult with my Lord Ashley to prevent it. The nation is undone if it goes on. Ludlowe is certainly hereabouts. God deliver his people."

Sir Edward Harley to Lady Harley, at Bucknill.

[16]62, November 25—"Dunkirk is come to town, that is the garrison. Brave fellows they are. Every man hath brought the King his weight in silver. Could but al his subjects do as much, he should not want coyn while this world lasts; which the astronomers say must end very shortly upon the meeting of the seven planets. In earnest they say the King of France wil goe to Rome to give his Holynes the oath of supremacy. He resolved to visit his new purchase of Dunkirk, where as at Calais my Lord Gerrard complements from the King. My Lord Rutherford and I hope to find more satisfaction in a countrey life where we may serve God and pray for the King. The King is graciously pleased to order my arrears [at Dunkirk] to be considered, which I am sure were very faithfully served for."

I hope your kitchen goes on at Brampton; I desire the directions I gave for the other rooms be hastened.

The Same to the Same.

[16]62, November 29. Fish Yard—The Russian Ambassador was pompously received last Thursday. His bill of fare is daily four oxen and three partridges.

The Same to the Same.

[16]62, December 2—Whilst I am here the best of the six days are Monday and Friday let the weather be what it will. It was a saying of my father's "Husbands make the almanacks, but wives the fair weather." Your letters warm and revive me though it rain and freeze.

My arrears will pay for your lying-in and nursing your child, therefore allow me a few days to seek for it as the King has most graciously and freely promised it to me. Friday (December 5) is Robin's birthday. The Lord grant many happy, that is, holy days.

The Same to the Same.

[16]62, December 6—This day has dispatched my business with Lord Craven. The King graciously ordered my money which I hope to receive on Monday.

The Same to the Same.

[16]62, December 9—I desire you to put up the screen in your chamber between the bed and the door, and a curtain for the window; and for my sake do not fail to provide matting to mat your chamber. It may be had at Ludlow.

The Same to the Same.

[16]62, December 13—I hoped to be out of town to-day, but money is not so soon caught. Half is received, the rest is promised on Monday. I send you two pieces of Holland, one for "linens" for you and myself, the other is my present to you to make you a pair of sheets.

Six persons are condemned for the late plot.

Sir John Shaw to [Thomas De]laval.

1662, December 13—Concerning Sir Edward Harley's arrears.

Ellis-ap-Ellis to Lady [Harley].

1662, December 13—Announcing the arrival of two barrels and other parcels. *Note in Sir Edward Harley's handwriting.* "The two barrels are with sugar, fruit and spice. One of the boxes by the carrier hath your shoes, playthings for Robin and things of mine."

Sir Robert Murray to ——.

c 1662—Giving an account of himself and of his interior life. *Copy.*

William Bradford to Lady Harley, at Bucknill.

1662[-3], January 1. London—Being a guest to-day of the Judge in Wood Street, I had the happiness to hear of your safe delivery of a daughter. All at Wood Street present their service to you, but especially Sir Francis Goodrich and his lady.

Sir Edward Harley to Captain Grant.

1662[-3], January 6. Bucknill—Thanking him for letters and papers, and for some oranges which had arrived safely.

Sir Robert Harley to his brother, Sir Edward Harley.

1663, April 29. Barbados—I received yours of the 3rd February this day, and was glad to hear of the recovery of your, and of my brother Thomas's, health. I have been here now two months and I expected

Lord Willoughby to be before me; which disappointment has been more than inconvenient to me. The letters by this ship give no assurance of his speedy coming. If he should not come at all I have cast my thoughts upon Surinam to try what I can do, unless I find a trade on the Brazil coast worth my while. *Signet.*

The Same to the Same.

Same date and place—I know not how things are in England though it is six months since I parted from England and above twenty English ships have come here since my arrival. It would be an advantage to me if I might be agent here for the Royal Company, or if I might look after, receive, and dispose of the King's dues. I expect Lord Willoughby in May. *Signet.*

Abigail Warburton to her niece [Lady Harley].

1663, May 19—I thank you for "the pey you war plesed to send me which was veri good." It was often in my thoughts to write to you this winter but my own and my husband's illness prevented me. I am glad to hear Sir Edward is rid of his gout.

Sir Edward Harley to Lady Harley, at Brampton.

[16]63, May 19. Westminster—I have arrived here safely to-day. I saw your brother at the Temple and met my sister Bromfield there who intends to go to Gloucestershire to-morrow for the general rendezvous. I am sorry to hear my sister Stephens found both her boys sick. If you find any distemper returns upon Robin, I desire you would not delay making an issue in his arm. God bless him and his three sisters. *Several patterns of coloured silks are enclosed.*

The Same to [the Same].

1663, May 23. Margaret Lane, Westminster—If you were as much delighted with writing as I with reading your letter, you would not send me such short lines. I am troubled that the children at Essington have been so ill.

Sir Robert Harley to his brother [, Sir Edward Harley].

1663, May 25. Barbados—If Lord Willoughby does not come I shall leave this place. "Here is noe goeing abroad here without a horse nor noe being in health without goeing abroad" therefore I entreat you to send me your grey mare which I used to ride, and the white mare I left at Lord Townshend's, by the first ship that comes here. There is no week in the year but ships come from London hither. *Signet.*

Sir Edward Harley to Lady Harley, at Brampton.

[16]63, May 26. Westminster—"I promised you a letter of courtship but I find it's not to be performed. When I am about to say what becomes one that desires, I am stopt by the thoughts of what I enjoy.

The flowers of the spring are not to be found in harvest; yet harvest is better than spring. If I doe not send you the addresses of a passionat servant, I send you the affections of a friend. The sympathy belongs to half myself; the love of one to whom you are all the world. Take more yet. I bless God I can write to you in this style, where the law of kindnes, I hope, shal alwaies dictat our letters. You wil not be angry that the King hath sent us a message that we must think of a recess next month. The great newes from France is of the King of France his sudden sickness, sayd to be the spotted fever, and wants not the common suspicion of extraordinary distemper befalling enterprising Princes, that poyson may be the caus."

The Same to the Same.

[16]63, May 30. Margaret Lane, Westminster—Your shoes and stockings are sent to Essington so I hope you will be pacified. When you go there take Francis the butler and the groom to wait upon you, and do not stay too long, for the children will miss you. I have received another letter from Sir Robert who is well.

Lord Mandeville was sent on Monday to visit the French King who is reported to be in a hopeful recovery from the measles, his disease, and no more fear of poison. Lord Holles is hastening to go ambassador for France, and the Earl of Carlisle for Russia.

The Same to the Same.

[16]63, June 2. Westminster—"Yours yesterday was a great kindness to mee, yet it is not to be forgiven that you expect any of my expressions to be complement, for the truth is I would not tak the paynes to give so much ink in courtship. But it is past that time of day between us." There is news come of a plot of the fanatics in Ireland.

The King.

1663, [June]—The account of the King's revenue as it was delivered to the House of Commons by Sir Philip Warwick. *See Journals of the House of Commons, June* 4 1663.

The King to Francis, Lord Willoughby of Parham, Governor of Barbados and the Carribe Islands.

1663, June 5. The Court at Whitehall—Privy seal declaring his pleasure that Sir Robert Harley should be appointed keeper of the seal of the Island of Barbados and of the Carribe Islands. *Copy.*

Sir E. H[arley] to Lady Harley, at Essington.

[16]63, June 6—"There is a certayn arrant knight errant who notwithstanding the obligation of his order, bids me tel you that in spite of of your malicious interpretation, he will justify upon his knowledg there is a certayn place where both spring and harvest flourish together. If it be a riddle to you, he sayth you desern not an Œdipus. The sayd knight further delivers himself in these termes, that if courtesy equal your beauty, which he presumes not to doubt, you wil comand your coach to be at the Ram in Cirencester Munday next by two of the clock, which wil absolutly save him more than three whole crownes."

The Same to [the Same].

[16]63, June 13. Westminster—I came on Thursday to Lechlade, yesterday to Henley and this day hither. I have received Mr Martin's answer, which is a refusal of Brampton. I suppose you will be returning home next week.

Francis, Lord Willoughby, of Parham.

1663, June 19—Grant to Sir Robert Harley in pursuance of the King's pleasure, of the custody of the public seal for the Island of Barbados and the rest of the Carribe Islands for life. *Copy.*

Sir Edward Harley to Lady Harley, at Brampton.

1663, June 20. Westminster—I hope this will find you at home with all your good company. Let my brother Palmer know that I am much troubled not to be at home to wait upon him. You are therefore doubly bound to bestir yourself to make your friends such welcome as so poor a place is capable. If the venison be lean and the cider sour I am sure you must be out of countenance. "You doe wel to be in the fashion so soon. The Queen begins to ride on horsback, and you would have a sadle. But by your leav Madam, I wil sel your coach and horses before I buy a sadle."

The Same to the Same.

[16]63, June 23. Westminster—I hope you and your company have arrived at Brampton. I hope the building is hastened and the workmen more careful to preserve themselves as well as advance the work.

This day the House of Commons voted the King four subsidies, to be paid two in November and two in May. Don John with his Spanish army has taken Evora one of the best towns in Portugal. The Turk is marching with a mighty army in to Hungary.

Slip enclosed. 1663, June 22—"Yesterday the King sent Mr Secretary Morrice to forbid the Earl of Bristol to come to Court."

The Same to the Same.

[16]63, June 27. Westminster—I am troubled that one of the workmen who fell at the new building is dead. I desire you to enquire what wife or children the dead person hath left, that I might take some order for some provision for them.

I wrote to you that the Spanish army commanded by Don John had taken one of the best towns in Portugal. Since that the Portuguese have gained a complete victory over the Spaniards, of whom 4000 killed, 6000 prisoners. All cannon and baggage lost. Don John lost two horses under him. The honour and brunt of the engagement was the lot of the English and some French under Court Schonberg, a protestant, and by his mother, English. Of our countrymen a hundred killed, four hundred wounded. During the battle the heat proved so vehement that till the day cooled they were forced to forbear fighting some hours. I have sent you a saddle, such as it is; but what horse you will ride I know not. If Stryche would not start, he goes very

well. I earnestly desire that you would think of weaning Abigail speedily.

On the back.—"Tell Shilton that I comand him to let all in Brampton know if they sel ale after this warning they shal not have any thing to doe with mee any longer."

The Same to the Same.

[16]63, June 30. Westminster—I am constrained to contract my lines, for without eating a bit I was in the House of Commons from eight in the morning till nine this night. The best news I have is that Mr Martin has come here with a resolution to settle at Brampton. *Signet.*

The Same to [the Same].

[16]63, July 4. Westminster—I am glad my gelding carries you so well. My service to my sister Bromfield. Tell her that my brother Stowell was sent for to the Council, but to make him amends he is made Sir John Stowell. Lady Twisden and Mrs Cholmeley are gone to Essington. Parliament adjourns not before the 16th of this month.

Peregrine Palmer to his sister[-in-law], Lady Harley.

1663, July 5. Essington—Thanking her for her hospitality and hoping to see her and Sir Edward at Fairfield. *Signet.*

Margaret Fitzjames to her sister, Lady Harley.

[16]63, July 6. Essington—We came hither on Saturday and found all well and Lady Twisden and her son and two daughters and Mrs Betty Cholmeley here. I pray deliver the enclosed packet to my sister Bromfield "and tell her all the company did ernestly desier to se her huse's tokenes to her, so my sister Palmer broke up one and I the other, for which we both beg her pardon. I spoke to my Lady Twisden about weaninge your girle and she is of the opinion that if you weane her before Candelmas, it is beast to weane her next month." *Signet.*

Sir Edward Harley to Lady Harley.

[16]63, July 7. Westminster—The Parliament, desirous to dispatch by the 16th, sits all day, so that I cannot discourse long with you. I desire you to give strict charge that tithe hay be gathered in my grounds and in all the parish. I have bought you two bay coach mares and intend to buy a light chariot.

Sir Robert Harley to his brother, Sir Edward Harley.

1663, July 9. Barbados—This bearer Mrs. Powell and her husband who are both our kindred, have been very kind to me, which I doubt not you will acknowledge by assisting her in her business. *Signet.*

Sir Edward Harley to Lady Harley.

[16]63, July 11. Westminster—Your shoes are bought and your other directions shall be observed. I doubt whether next week will

conclude the session. The Earl of Bristol yesterday delivered to the Lords an impeachment against the Lord Chancellor. The judges are ordered to give their opinion on it on Monday.

I have had another letter from my brother dated about five weeks since. The weather here is very bad. I must desire of you earnestly not only for our health and wealth but for a special reason to be told when we meet "that you wil cause dinner to be every day ready by eleven of the clock.

There is a large couch, which was my father's, at Bucknill. I would have it brought into my study at the dairy house, and I desire that some stuff curtains be made for the windows in my study.

The Same to the Same.

[16]63, July 14. Westminster—Thanks for your Welsh letter, if you had not written I had taken the boldnes to chide lustily." I wrote to you of the impeachment of the Lord Chancellor by the Earl of Bristol. The judges have unanimously declared it is not treason. *Signet.*

The Same to the Same.

[16]63, July 18. Westminster—Tuesday next is appointed a fast here. Thursday is purposed for the King and Queen to go to Tunbridge. God bless you and the children. I hope you keep Brill and Martha to "theyr book and catechise." You must keep some cider for my brother Robert Stephens. He begins his circuit Monday next. *Signet.*

The Same to the Same.

[16]63, July 25. Westminster—"What! not a letter? You wil never be able to answer it, mak what excuse you can; nor wil I be satisfied unles you be most extraordinary kind when I come home. To be revenged I wil only tel you I dined yesterday with a widdow that sighed at dinner time, but is marrying again as fast as she can." I hope Monday next we shall rise, but when I come out of town is not yet certain. The Queen went to Tunbridge on Thursday, and wept when she parted from the King.

The Same to the Same.

[16]63, August 1. Westminster—"Nameless Lady. The scolding of your letter hath kindnes enough to endear it. You need not fear whatever you write can want a welcome. While the Parlement sate I was impatient of your absence, now I pine more then any good-natured courtier that condoles the sad absence of his lady at Tunbridge, where our gracious Quen hath been above a week. There is great hope she is with child, which is so far beleeved that Her Majestie hath forborn the waters. Now I hope I have sent you good newes." I hoped to be at Worcester to-night but I caught such a cold the day of Prorogation that I was not able to despatch my business. I am well now but I doubt whether I shall be able to leave town before Tuesday. "Mrs. Thrisscros is gone to Bath for the common caus." *Signet.*

BARBADOS.

1663, August 25—Memorandum that at a meeting of Francis, Lord Willoughby of Parham, governor of the Island and the rest of the Caribbe Islands, with the whole of his Council consisting of Sir Robert Harley, Colonel James Browne, Colonel John Yeamans, Colonel Thomas Ellice, William Kirton Esq, and Colonel Edmond Read, the great seal of the Island was delivered to Sir Robert Harley who was thereby constituted keeper of the great seal. *Copy attested by Edward Bowdon, deputy secretary.*

PHILEMON STEPHENS to SIR ROBERT HARLEY, Chancellor of the Island of Barbados.

1663, August 31. London—Asking his favour for his sons Jeremy and James Stephens both residing in Barbados. *Signet.*

SIR EDWARD HARLEY to CAPTAIN JOHN GRANT, in London.

[16]63, September 1. Brampton—On business. *Signet.*

SIR ROBERT HARLEY to SIR EDWARD HARLEY.

1663, September 11. Barbados—I am glad to hear of your health by your two letters by Lord Willoughby, by whom I received his Commission and in yours the King's *mandamus*. My Lord Willoughby has likewise made me Chancellor of all the Caribbe Islands, for which place I much want instructions and books as to terms.

There are few people here but what are either unfit for business or so "humorous or knavish" as not to be used. The secretary's place and mine clash, for it takes the profit from both. My Lord is very kind to me; he has had great contest with the Assembly about settling a revenue for the King. The main point is that they would not confess the King to be proprietor, and so receive confirmation of their estates from him "but would have their possessing it dureing the troublesome times to be a good tittle." But I think that is well over and there will be agreement; my Lord having "as good as quitted al arreares by referring himselfe wholly to the country to doe what they thinke good. The most they give the King is four pounds and a halfe upon every hundred of sugar, which may amount yearly to 1000000 of sugar. If we agree in al other things the assembly and councel have agreed that I shal have four pound of sugar an acre as my fee for al lands that passe the seale in the Island. There is 100000 acres whereof ninety may passe the seale." *Signet.*

BARBADOS.

1663, September 12—An act passed by the Governor, Council and Assembly of Barbados and the other Caribbe Islands, granting an impost to the King and his heirs for ever of "foure and a halfe in specie for every five score" of all dead commodities of the growth and produce of the Island which shall be shipt away. *Copy.*

[SIR ROBERT HARLEY] to his brother [SIR EDWARD HARLEY].

[1663, September ?]—"You may have heard of the imprisoning of some merchants here at the Lord Willoughby's first comeing, and that

I was forward in it, but not soe forward as some represented." The merchants were to blame for what they did, but to make them some satisfaction I have applied myself to their defence whenever they were likely to be oppressed. I send you herewith a copy of the act passed here for a custom, which act has been passed by my industry. There have been several patents for this island and several English pretenders to it — besides Spaniards and Indians. First was Sir William Courteen, who had a ship that by chance lighted on this island and so took possession, upon account of a patent which he had, to enjoy such places as he should discover. Then Lord Pembroke had a patent for it, I think joining with Courteen, and had a governor here, one Powell. About the same time Marlborough had a patent for it and sells it to the Earl of Carlisle; and so the Earl of Carlisle has a patent and sends a governor who puts away Powell. Abut this time the island begins to be inhabited though very rudely, yet making some commodities such as indigo, cotton, tobacco and a small quantity of sugar, so some merchants of London thinking it a place that would thrive, had 10000 acres granted to them in the country by the Earl of Carlisle upon condition to pay to him five in the hundred of what should be produced on the land. *Indorsed in Sir Edward Harley's handwriting.* "From my brother concerning Barbados."

The Same to the Same.

1663, October 8. Barbados—The horse you sent came very well but in danger to be lost by a cold since. "My Lord Willoughby is valetudinary." *Signet.*

Barbados.

1663, November 2—Commission by Francis, Lord Willoughby of Parham, Governor of Barbados and the rest of the Caribbe Islands, to Sir Robert Harley, Thomas Moddiford, John Yeoman, William Kirton, and Thomas Wardell, Esquires to be judges in the Islands of Barbados, and to keep courts, make records of all proceedings, enter judgments, and issue executions, in the same manner and form as the Court of Exchequer did in England. *Copy.*

Sir Edward Harley to Captain John Grant, in Whitecross Street, London.

[16]63, November 24—I have sent you "a little barrel or pot, wherein are two sides of a buck which I hope wil eat wel, and I desire your wife wil accept. The cariage is payd fully."

Captain John Grant to Sir Edward Harley, at Brampton.

1663, November 28—Thanking him for the venison.

John Champants to Sir Edward Harley, at Brampton.

1663, December 12. London—I had nothing with the inclosed but the good news of Sir Robert's health. From others I understand that my Lord (Willoughby) hath seized on the 10000 acres of land which were the merchants, which hath so incensed them here that they talk very high and threaten to have him sent over.

The Earl of Clarendon to Sir Robert Harley.

1663, December 24. Worcester House—"I have yours of the 11th of September and am very glad you are setled in your office, which I hope will be easyer and pleasanter to you than mine is to me. You come upon one disadvantage which is that the island is in soe florishing a condition that it can hardly be improoved. I pray send me as particular an account of that and the neighbouring islands as your observation can doe; the number of the people, the manner of their building, how many churches they have and how they are provided with cleargy. I expected from you after your voyage to Surenham (Surinam), some description of that colony, and in what security it is against any attempts of an enemy. I hope you will not faile of one thing, which is to grow very rich against the time you returne to your friends here, who will be as carefull, by the course we take, that you shall find land and houses enough to be purchased." *Seal of arms.*

Richard Langton to [Sir Robert Harley].

1663, December 27. Tangier—I judge you will have heard of the transactions here since the Earl of Teviot's coming, and that your regiment was then reduced and the officers thereof reformed.

Captain Fitzgerald, the deputy Governor, has prolonged the peace with "Gayland" for two months to come, because of the Governor's absence. The Turks of Algiers annoy our merchant ships by plundering what goods they please to think belong to strangers. To suppress which Sir John Lawson is daily expected here with twelve frigates.

William Swynfen to Sir Robert Harley.

1663[–4], January 8—Presenting him with a kid.

Edward Blayney to Sir Robert Harley, at Surinam.

1663[–4], January 8. Tangier—I question not but that you have heard of the alteration we have had since the Earl of Teviot came, and of the two days success against the Moors upon which they made a peace for six months. Since that the Earl of Teviot has been to England but is expected back with four hundred foot to make us up to two thousand. Our mole goes on apace and is likely to be a fine piece of work.

William Willoughby to Sir Robert Harley, in Barbados.

[16]63[–4], January 13—I have been so pestered in soliciting my brother's commands that this letter will run a hazard in saving wind and tide, the ships being in the Downs. By them my brother will receive the King's answer and a full one. Their hearts are still set upon Jamaica. I shall, after the old jockey rule, give them no ease till I have got the ship, and the rest of his commands abroad. For yours in relation to the negro children, I fear I shall not drive a bargain at the rate you propose; therefore, unless I receive further orders from you or can get the Company to adhere to what you have directed, I shall desire a thousand thanks for your care of my son. The King and great ones here are greatly pleased with Monsieur's *rhodomantados*. Many enquire after Sir Chancellor's proceedings and his health. *Signet.*

COLONEL ROGER ALSOPP to SIR ROBERT HARLEY, in Barbados or Surinam.

1663[–4], January 13. Tangier—At our first coming here the Earl of Peterborough shut up the ports of Tangier and suffered none of the garrison to go forth. But Lord Teviot immediately upon his arrival, built five redoubts, and drew a line wherein he incompassed enough ground to keep the cattle of the town. Before we could finish the work "Guland" set on us twice, but we gave them such a welcome that he sent messengers to treat for a peace, which was agreed for six months. *Signed. Signet.*

ROBERT BARBER to SIR ROBERT HARLEY, in Surinam.

1663[–4], January 13. Tangier—Giving an account of engagements with the Moors.

CAPTAIN JOHN GRANT to SIR EDWARD HARLEY, at Brampton.

1663[–4], January 19. London—I have waited upon Lord Ashley and he says that the exchequer is so low that nothing can be done at present about Sir Robert's arrears. *Signet.*

WILLIAM YEARWORTH to SIR ROBERT HARLEY, Chancellor of Barbados.

[16]63[–4], January 27. Morgoname on the Surinam River—A gentleman has arrived in this river at Sandy point with a hundred and thirty negroes on board his ship. The ladies that are here live at Saint John's Hill. It is reported here that you have sold that plantation to Lord Willoughby.

The GOVERNOR and COUNCIL [of Barbados] to the PROVOST MARSHALL.

1663–4, February 11—Warrant for the arrest of Sir Robert Harley late Keeper of the public seal until he shall produce such seal, he having refused, without reason given, to seal a writ directed to the Escheator to enquire for his Majesty's service. *Copy attested by George Hannay.*

GEORGE WALROND to SIR ROBERT HARLEY, Chancellor [of Barbados].

1663[–4], February 12—Condoling with him upon his misfortunes. *Signet.*

[SIR ROBERT HARLEY] to LORD WILLOUGHBY.

1663–4, February 12—"The mists which obscure the sunne staye not long and I wil hope that those clouds that are gathered betweene your favour and me will not be for ever. I was informed by Collonel Read you had passed an ordinance touching the chancery, which you desired should be sealed with the publike seale in my custody, for which if you please to let me have your warrant and putt me in a condition of freedome fitte to do it, shal be done as you please to comand. Or otherwise if it be your pleasure to continue my trouble, I will appoynt such a deputy as against whom there cann be noe just or lawful excep-

tions, whoe will be ready to attend and observe your comands. I will not urge that it's my right to be allowed bayle, nor will I aske to have a guard at my own lodgeing, a place something freer from muskitoes, noyse, and stincke, then this where I am, because much more inconveniences I have with pleasure borne, when I have thought that in the least they might conduce to your service." *In Sir Robert's handwriting. Copy attested by Samuel Farmer.*

The Same to the Same.

1663–4, February 13. From the Marshall—Being ignorant of anything from me that could move your passion to the height "you have used it" and being desirous out of the love I bear you, whatever the famous men of your council may do to me, to have you know that I have done nothing contrary to that love,—I asked Doctor Rous what might be the matter and he assures me that you believe that I did publicly scoff at you in Court about the thousand pounds which Walrond owes you. Being assured of this abates something of my wonder at your proceedings, but it drives me into another amazement that you could believe it of me. *The rest of the letter is taken up with the writer's version of what really took place. Copy.*

The Same to the Same.

[1664, February]—Petitioning that a day might be appointed when he could wait upon him and deliver the seals into his hands. *Copy.*

Edward Pye to his kinsman, Sir Robert Harley.

[16]63[–4], February 15.—Giving him advice on the course of action he should pursue towards the Governor and Council.

Sir R. Harley to his brother, Sir Edward Harley, in London.

1663–4, February 18. Barbados—I send you a bill of exchange for 500*l.* which is all you or I are like to see of all I brought to the Indies. Everything else is wrested from me by Lord Willoughby, and whether this will be paid or not, I know not, but get the bill accepted if you can. Lord Willoughby with all insolence imaginable, because I would not join in unlawful projects, by force would have taken the seals from me, then with all manner of indignity, imprisoned me, and but for the murmur of some gentlemen had taken away my life by a Council of War. Upon my delivery of the seal he would have sent me to Surinam, but upon much pressing this day or tomorrow will send me in a small vessel to New England, and upon no terms will let me go for Old England, but insultingly tells me he has saved my life and can take it away when he please. *Signet.*

The Earl of Teviot to Sir Robert Harley, in Surinam.

1663–4, February 26. Tangier—If you send your country commodities here they will find merchants abundantly. I hear my Lord Peterborough alleges an order from the King not to pay any absent officers, so you can expect nothing of your pay as Colonel.

RICHARD LANGTON to SIR ROBERT HARLEY, in Barbados.

1663–4, February 28. Tangier—This place is very well situate for the purpose of trade, having the benefit of Spain and Italy for such goods as wine, oil, linens, anchovies, olives; and ships may touch conveniently at the islands for cattle; but we are not likely to get many Moors, as they will not advance near us. We have eighty Moors of Algiers in this town whom we are keeping at present. If they are sold for slaves Lord Teviot will give me the refusal of such of them as I shall desire, and so may with some friends "adventure" them to Barbados.

PETER SAINTHILL to SIR ROBERT HARLEY, Lieutenant General of the Caribbe Islands, in Barbados.

1663–4, February 29. Tangier—A complimentary letter.

WILLIAM LANGTON to SIR ROBERT HARLEY, in Barbados.

1663[–4], February 29. Tangier—I am ashamed that having come so lately from Italy I have nothing to present you with but the great respect the Florentine ambassador with the cavaliers showed to the remembrance of your favours. The King of France has marched seven thousand horse and foot into Italy against the Pope; though at my departure some said they were agreed, "and the State of Milan stands in feare, the Genoises in awe, and the Venetians with jealousy." All Italy trembles at the Monsieurs and the Emperor is troubled that in this conjuncture he aspires to be King of the Romans, whilst the Turk makes for his empire. *Signet.*

W. CLINTON *alias* FINES to SIR ROBERT HARLEY, in Surinam (Sydenham.)

1663[–4], March 2. Tangier—Reporting a skirmish with the enemy on the 1st March.

GEORGE NEDHAM to SIR ROBERT HARLEY, in London.

1663[–4], March 3. Barbados—Offering to buy his plantations in Surinam. *Signet.*

MARY BURGH to SIR ROBERT HARLEY, in Barbados.

1663[–4], March 4.—Asking him to accept of the widows mite of a little Rhenish wine and some tobacco. *Signet.*

GEORGE STRANGE to SIR ROBERT HARLEY, at Saint Michael's Town in Barbados.

1663[–4], March 4. Surinam—Reporting upon his plantation and asking him to supply it with negroes. *Signet.*

GEORGE NEDHAM to SIR ROBERT HARLEY, in London.

1663[–4], March 7. Barbados—Offering to buy a share of his plantations in Surinam and to manage them; and offering also to buy his books if he did not return to these parts. *Signet.*

WILLIAM BYAM to SIR ROBERT HARLEY, in Barbados.

[16]63[–4], March 14. Surinam—Giving local news. *Signet.*

MARY BYAM to SIR ROBERT HARLEY, in Barbados.

1663[–4], March 18—I have made bold to write and acquaint you with my fortunate voyage here. Seven days passage was the longest. As for this country it does agree very well with me and I like it very well as yet. Be pleased to present my service to his Excellency and his two nephews.

CAPTAIN JOHN GRANT to SIR EDWARD HARLEY, at Brampton.

1663[–4], March 22. London—Nothing has been done in Sir Charles Stanley's business as the house adjourned on Wednesday last till yesterday, when his Majesty met them and made a short speech. It is not yet in print but I understand the substance was to move them to raise some money and to have the bill of triennial parliaments repealed, and it also gave them to understand that they were to sit but ten months, and also acquainted them of the nature of the plot in Yorkshire. There is great discourse here about those two great men. A party of horse was sent to take the one of them and to bring away any persons that they found there; but my Lord could not be found, but they found Lieutenant Croton who is lieutenant to Captain Strood now Governor of Dover Castle. The lieutenant is prisoner in the Gatehouse. Yesterday the Countess of Bristol delivered a letter to the House of Lords which they say was voted to be sent to the King before they would open it. Others say that it was to be read to-day. There are various discourses about this business, and the people are generally for him, and it is thought he has the major part of both houses, and it is believed he will be admitted to bring in his charge if the House sits so long.

The SAME to the SAME.

1664, March 26. London—I enquired yesterday whether a bill has been brought in about Sir Charles Stanley's debts but there is not any yet, the House having been wholly taken up about the triennial bill which I hear is now repealed, though with great opposition by several members. Mr Pym declared it to be like Nebuchadnezzar's image. While I was in the lobby, Cooper, the door-keeper, asked for you. I told him you were not well. There is little other news save that my Lord Bristol still perseveres in what he can, but it will be to little purpose. The King is much incensed against him.

I understand there is some difference between my Lord and Sir Robert, which I am sorry to hear. I understand that Sir Robert is better beloved than my Lord. They say that Sir Robert is very obliging to the masters of ships and all the ordinary sort of people. This is what I learn from Mr Champants and others, but I hope you will understand it very speedily from Sir Robert himself. *Signet.*

JAMES WALWYN to SIR ROBERT HARLEY, in London.

1664, April 1. Barbados—I hope this may kiss your hands and find you safe arrived in London after your long voyage. After I took my leave of you I stirred not till I was certain that you were under sail

and clear of danger. That night I went to my house near the Hoole, but about midnight a messenger came from the Bridge to acquaint me that there was a warrant out to apprehend you. The next day I came to the Bridge and took account of all your goods, and immediately removed them and delivered the keys of your house to Mr Powell. I have since disposed of your goods at the best rates I could. Since your departure three new Councillors have been chosen and a new Chancery court erected. I have sold some of your negroes and Indians and have paid many of your debts at least to the value of 60000 *lb.* sugar.

1664, April 19. Barbados—The foregoing is a copy of my last. I also enclose you two letters from Surinam.

Captain John Grant to Sir Edward Harley.

1664, April 12. London—These are to acquaint you that Sir Robert is come to London. He is very ill and has been so a great part of his voyage. My Lord has written to the King. Colonel Willoughby gave it him to-day.

Rowland Stibbin to Sir Robert Harley, in London.

1664, April 22. Barbados—When I arrived here on the 30th March, bringing a hundred and seventy head of cattle, I heard of your departure, to my great discontent. Your plantations in Surinam are "in good likeing" but if not very soon supplied, will go to ruin. I should wish you to dispose of your plantation at Sandypoint. It is full of "provision, it being onle indian gardens, are subject to runn to ruen without store of hands to keepe it under."

Sir Edward Harley to Lady Harley, at Brampton.

[16]64, May 2. Westminster—I suppose you will not be angry that the Parliament is likely to adjourn very suddenly.

The Same to the Same.

[16]64, May 7—I entreat you to be cheerful and do not pore upon your worsted and fustian after dinner. Believe me it is bad for your health. I am much troubled that drinking is so much kept up at Brampton. I hope what I have written will prevail against it. My brother Sir Robert is removed to my lodging but is still very weak.

The Same to the Same.

[16]64, May 10—This day the King has signified to us that we shall "recede" Saturday next.

James Walwyn to Sir Robert Harley, at the three black Lions in the Old Bailey.

1664, May 13. Barbados—Since my last of the 19th April the small vessel which you and Mr Knight sent for Calais has arrived. I conceive you have heard of her being taken by the Turks who took out and carried away all the negroes and some sugar. What they left was disposed of at Calais. *Signet.*

JOHN KNIGHT to SIR ROBERT HARLEY, in London.

1664, May 14. Barbados—The bad news of the taking of the supplies by the Turks will have met you at your arrival. My Lord is at the Leeward Islands. I being aboard with him at his departure he did take a glass of wine and drank your health with a great many good wishes for your welfare. *Signet.*

SIR EDWARD HARLEY to LADY HARLEY.

[16]64, May 14—The parliament is not prorogued as the Bill against conventicles was not fully passed. I have sent by the Ludlow carrier two "ginny" goats.

The SAME to the SAME.

[16]64, May 21—Informing her that he meant to leave town early on Monday and to be at home on Thursday betimes.

MAJOR WILLIAM LLOYD to SIR EDWARD HARLEY, at Brampton.

1664, May 27—I gave the Lord Chancellor your letter, and told him the occasion which called you away so suddenly. He asked if Sir Robert had gone with you, and I told him that he was in town and very dangerously ill. *Signet.*

SIR EDWARD HARLEY to his brother, SIR ROBERT HARLEY, in Margaret Lane, Westminster.

1664, June 3. Brampton—I am sorry to hear you continue so ill. I hope to hear by this post that you are somewhat better and have kissed the King's hand, before whom, I trust, the Lord has given you favour. As soon as you can, for your health's sake and all other respects I pray you hasten hither.

MAJOR WILLIAM LLOYD to his cousin, SIR EDWARD HARLEY, at Brampton.

1664, June 11—This brings the ill news of Sir Robert's present condition, which indeed is very weak. I thought yesterday morning he could not live till noon. Seeing him so, I desired him to make some declaration how he intended to dispose of anything belonged to him. Whereupon, in the presence of Mr Firman and the nurse, he said that he gave everything to his brother, Sir Edward Harley, and that made him his sole executor and that he desired his care of his sister Mitchell, and that his body might be embalmed and sent to Brampton to be buried. He is a little better to-day. *Signet.*

SIR ROBERT HARLEY to [JAMES] WALWYN.

1664, June 14. London—Ten days brought us into such an alteration of weather, so sharp, that before three weeks the whole ships company was down "in the belley ake." Though I was the last to be visited, it still continues with me. I have received letters from Mr George Nedham concerning the sale of my plantations at Surinam. The papers are all with you; I refer it to you to make what you can of them.

MAJOR WILLIAM LLOYD to SIR EDWARD HARLEY, at Brampton.

1664, June 16—I send you Captain Witham's account of that "unhappy action." I fear there will be but an ill account of the garrison (of Tangiers). Recruits are sent already out of every company of the guards in town, and two hundred from Portsmouth. The Deputy Governor Fitzgerald, Colonel Norwood, and others went on Monday. God give them good success.

Sir Robert Harley continues very ill and weak. There were yesterday three doctors with him.

SIR EDWARD HARLEY to LADY HARLEY.

[16]64, June 18—Announcing his arrival in town and that he found his brother very weak.

SIR EDWARD HARLEY to LADY HARLEY, at Brampton.

[16]64, June 25. Westminster—I hope you will be careful of yourself, and if the "nnrsery" agree not with you, I entreat you go not on with it. My brother was so ill since my last that we feared for his life, but we had some hopes yesterday, which are rather increased to-day than otherwise. His desire is earnest to go into the country. The physicians approve it as one of the best helps to recover his health, so that we only wait for some additional degree of strength to enable him for the journey. I wrote before to desire that my litter be made ready. The parsonage will be the most convenient place for him, but whether above or below stairs is a doubt to me, for he being deprived of his limbs, will with difficulty be carried up and down stairs. Therefore I desire you to consult my brother Thomas concerning it, that, if other inconvenience be not against it, the lower room be made ready. You must remove the dairy to the new house in the pantry. Another casement must be made in the room in the parsonage chamber, in both windows, for in hot weather he is stifled without air.

The SAME to [the SAME].

1664, June 28. Westminster—There is some further hope of my brother's life, yet he remains very weak. I hope we may get out of town before this week's end. Sir John FitzJames came to see me today. He desires you will buy for him a piece of very fine "flanen"; it is for himself to wear next his skin, and you are to send it for him to my sister Bromfield.

COLONEL WILLIAM BYAM to JAMES WALWYN.

1664, July 13. Surinam—Giving a report upon Sir Robert Harley's three plantations in that colony. *Copy.*

WILLIAM GWILT to SIR ROBERT HARLEY in Tothill Street, Westminster.

1664, July 27—Asking for an order for his freedom, and for satisfaction of his claims.

WILLIAM GWILT to his father, THOMAS GWILT, at Brampton.

1664, July 27. Surinam—Enquiring after all his family, and informing them that he was on Sir Robert Harley's plantation at Saint John's Hill, with only one negro for a companion. *Signet.*

DENIS DE REPAS to LORD [TOWNSHEND].

[1664 ?]—Stating that his father who lived in Paris, was Councillor, the King's Secretary, and Comptroller General of Waters and Forests. Also stating that he was known to Prince Rupert, in whose train his eldest brother, the Marquis of Aivigni, had been for three years. Also that he had been a friar in the order of St. Francis for seven or eight years but that God had enlightened him and made him "know the papisticall errors." *Endorsed in Sir Robert Harley's hand.* "The letter from the Capuchin."

D. de REPAS to SIR ROBERT HARLEY, at Brampton.

1664, August 8. Stiffkey—Asking him to write to his sister [Mitchell] that she might fulfil her promise of procuring him a church. *Signet.*

COLONEL WILLIAM BYAM to SIR ROBERT HARLEY, in London.

[16]64, August 15. Surinam—Giving him a report of his estates in Surinam, and complaining of Gwilt. *Signet.*

The SAME to [the SAME].

Same date—The accounts of Sir Robert Harley's estates. *Enclosed in the preceding letter.*

DOCTOR SAMUEL JOHNSON to [SIR ROBERT HARLEY].

[16]64, August 22—The importunity of my return from my Lord Herbert's made it impossible for me to wait upon you. I am heartily glad to hear of your cheerfulness and increase of strength, but must earnestly desire you not to be too adventurous. I have sent patterns of hareskin, if you like them and the dressing, I pray let me know what number will serve and I will provide them against the next return. I would also know whether you have had the opinion of the physicians concerning wine dilùted, which truly I think may be convenient, and if so, I shall make choice of some for your use. "I desire allsoe that you may have a tame fox to bee kept neer the house, especially if you can endure the smell, but however it cannot but bee verie beneficiall."

RICHARD LEE to [PHILIP] BARROW.

1664, September 16—Accusing Doctor Gunning of contradicting one of the thirty-nine articles, and stating that as a consequence of such contradiction he was not a member of the Church of England. *Copy.*

Doctor Peter Gunning to [Philip] Barrow.

[16]64, September 19—Refuting the charges and statements contained in the preceding letter. *Covy.*

Captain John Grant to Sir Edward Harley, at Brampton.

1664, September 20. London—On Sir Robert Harley's business. *Signet.*

Sir Edward Harley to his brother, Sir Robert Harley, at Bath.

[16]64, September 20—Congratulating him as having performed his journey safely.

Sir R. Harley to his brother, Sir Edward Harley, at Brampton.

1664, September 24. Bath—Yesterday was my tenth bathing. I am somewhat strengthened by it, so as to sit upright with greater ease and to go with a little more steadiness. Doctor Baures is my physician, who, according to his profession and nation is not wanting in giving hopes of perfect recovery; but the effects of the bath, he says, will be better discerned when gone hence. More than fourteen days longer it cannot be expected that there will be a possibility of bathing because of the increase of the cold winds; therefore against that time I desire the litter may be here. *Signed. Signet.*

James Croft to Sir Robert Harley, at Brampton.

1664, October 8. Bristol—On business. *Signet.*

Sir Edward Harley to Lady Harley, at Brampton.

1664, November 28. Hereford—I came here on Saturday night. The weather is foul but I hope to be at Essington in good time. I spoke with John Lowk about his vile speech. Though I do not doubt his guilt, I desire my brother may examine him before you. I pray God be gracious to my brother and cheer up his soul and body.

J. Lord Scudamore to Doctor Johnson.

1664, December 3. Holm Lacy—Offering to send Sir Robert Harley a supply of cider.

Sir Edward Harley to Lady Harley.

[16]64, December 7—My sister Bromfield has no oranges cakes nor are there any good oranges yet in town. I send a dozen such as they are, and a pound of nutmeg and dried ginger.

Sir Edward Harley to Lady Harley, at Brampton.

[16]64, December 17. Westminster—Yours was very welcome though it only came this morning and could hardly be read. I wonder how you think I can return home before Christmas, which is but a week hence. I hope to be ready to go Monday sennight.

I hope we shall obtain some considerable ease for Radnorshire, but not so much for Herefordshire.

I bless God my brother is so much better. I pray for the increase of it and hope he will use the medicines sent down.

"The newest newes is of a blazing star that rises in the south east about two in the morning. Let somebody watch for it."

WILLIAM PORTER to SIR ROBERT HARLEY.

1664, December 19. Bristol—Since you left our island, for the sake of my health, we undertook a tempestuous winter voyage, in which many times we had little hope of saving our lives. Thanks to God I arrived safely at Bristol but my wife by extremity of vomiting brought up much blood and still continues very weak. Hearing that you were at Bath about the time of our arrival she was troubled that we did not see you. We had intended ere this to have seen Gloucester and Bristol had the winter ways and my wife's sickness not prevented us. *Signed.*

SIR EDWARD HARLEY to LADY HARLEY, at Brampton.

[16]64, December 20. Westminster—I hope that my horses will be here on Saturday. The House is adjourned to January 12, for we have not yet passed the bill for money to the King, though the Dutch are much startled at so great a supply and such good preparations as the King has made.

JOHN CHAMPANTS to SIR ROBERT HARLEY, Chancellor of Barbados. To be sent to Brampton.

1664, December 22. London—The wax was made by the same person that makes for the great seal here and tempered for the climate you are in, where they tell me it will harden, and therefore must be ordered accordingly. I have sent your purse in the box with the wax. *Signet.*

SIR EDWARD HARLEY to LADY HARLEY, at Brampton.

[16]64, December 24. Westminster—I cannot dispatch my business so as to leave before Tuesday morning; and "I think to divert out of the way" so that you must not expect me before the end of the week. I am glad my brother has begun his London physic. I hope the rest of it will be useful to his health. I have sent you some medicines, and a hamper with bottles in it which I would have carefully taken out and not opened till I come. My sister Bromfield has sent you all something by the Ludlow carrier.

The Royal Company has received lately a great loss in Guinea by the Dutch.

DOCTOR SAMUEL JOHNSON to [SIR ROBERT HARLEY].

[16]64[-5], January 22—Sending him medicine with directions for its use.

I have given order for your wine to be the best which Worcester affords. The weather has been so violent here that since my coming from Brampton I have neither seen nor heard of any salmon or other fish in the market.

Sir Edward Harley to Lady Harley.

[16]64[–5], January 28. Westminster — Announcing his safe arrival.

William Porter to Sir Robert Harley, at Brampton.

1664[–5], February 3. Bristol—My wife and I will be very happy to enjoy the favour of your company at Bath.

I am informed from Barbados that the greatest part of our people in Santa Lucia are dead by sickness and the Indians swords and arrows. Not three hundred are left alive and these very sick, who have sent to be taken away from the place. Major William Yeamans lately sailed from here to Barbados. He has procured a commission for his father to be Knight Baron and Governor of Cape Fair. Our island will be unhappy in losing two such peers as Sir Thomas Modiford and himself. *Signed.*

Sir Edward Harley to [Lady Harley].

[16]64[–5], February 4. Westminster—I am sorry you have been troubled with a cold. I am under the same distemper and was never more sensible of sharp weather.

In obedience to your commands I have found a pretty chariot which I hope will please you, therefore send up your money speedily. I rejoice to hear my sister Stephens is so well brought to bed of a boy, Robin. I hope you will send to see how she does.

Yesterday our House passed the bill for money, and sent it up to the Lords. That finished, I suppose this session will not be long. Tell my brother Thomas that Lent is not to be kept, so the country need not be troubled about licences; but you must think speedily of buying another beef.

It is a great joy to me that my brother is anything better. My Lady Conway is much in his condition. This weather admits not of any husbandry, so I hope you keep as few in wages as you can.

The Same to the Same, at Brampton.

[16]64[–5], February 7. Westminster—I have bought a coach, the cheapest I could, the price of coach and harness is 38*l.* I wrote to you before that Lent is not to be kept this year and desired you to tell my brother Thomas so.

Last night the Duchess of York was delivered of a daughter.

The Same to the Same.

[16[64[–5], February 11—On' Thursday the King, with gracious acceptance of our aid and promise to employ the money according to our desires, passed the Bill for the three years tax. There is little remaining so that I think a few days more may determine this session.

The Same to the Same.

[16]64[–5], February 18.—It is supposed the Parliament will rise on Tuesday week; after that I shall stay but little; but where, Lady, is the money to pay for your coach?

The Same to [the Same].

[16]64[–5], February 25. "Our wedding day." Westminster—"Since we cannot be neerer this day then wishes wil bring us, I am glad to send you that wil tel you I doe as much long for your kind embraces as tis possible for a true affection. And I hope we shal, as they who by the difference of accounts in France and England keep one holy day twice in a year, keep two wedding dayes this year; one to-day, and one when, please God, we happily meet." The House is not likely to rise before this day sennight, but I hope to come sooner.

The Same to the Same.

[16]64[–5], March 4. Westminster—The Parliament was prorogued on Thursday till June 21st. The Kings proclamation was this day proclaimed by sound of trumpets.

John Knight to Sir Robert Harley.

1664–5, March 4. London—Announcing his arrival from Barbados.

Viscount Conway to his cousin, Sir Edward Harley, at Brampton.

1664–5, March 18. London—I find there is likely to be an opportunity of bringing you in among the Irish Commissioners, because Sir Richard Rainsford and Churchill stick to their appointments. It will be worth 1500*l.* if not 2000*l.* a year and all charges borne. I have discoursed about it with Lord Orrery. I pray you write to Lord Ashley Cooper to move in your behalf what we propose in the matter. Send me the letter, and Lord Orrery and I will carry it to him. Direct to me at my house in Queen Street. *Signet.*

Sir Edward Harley to [Lady Harley].

[16]65, April 7, Hereford—I was just ready to take horse towards you, but Mr Sandys and his boatmen hail me into Gloucestershire, and I may see Essington before I return, to which you may be sure I shall hasten.

Philip Barrow to Doctor Gunning, Master of Saint John's College, Cambridge.

1665, April 17—Concerning the controversy between Mr Lee and Doctor Gunning.

The Earl of Marlborough to Sir Hugh Pollard, Comptroller of the King's Household.

1665, April 24. The *Old James*, near the coast of Holland—An account of his religious views and convictions. *Copy.*

John Sturgeon to Sir Robert [Harley].

[16]65, June 8—I am glad to hear there is good hope of your recovery. Last night came the news of a great victory over the Dutch fleet. The particulars are, Opdam sunk by Captain Smith boarding

the Duke, but his body taken. Van Tromp sunk by Captain Homes. Seventeen great ships taken, thirteen sunk, one fired before the fight. Some fled towards Denmark. The Earl of Sandwich and Sir William Bartlett go in pursuit of them. Some few got into the Texel. The Dutch lost ten thousand men, whereof many are French. They had some thousands of French aboard their fleet.

Lost on one side the Earl of Marlborough, Lord FitzHarding (the Earl of Falmouth), Lord Portland, Lord Muskerry, and several gentlemen killed. Captain Sansum, rear admiral to the Prince killed; five hundred men killed. Sir John Lawson hurt, and the number of wounded men is great. In a word it is a great loss to the Hollander. The French are like to be upon us. I could wish you were in health to salute Monsieur if they shall be so bold as to come into the play.

The Assembly of the Representatives of Barbados to Francis, Lord Willoughby of Parham.

1665, June 8—Petition praying that none of the King's subjects in that island might thereafter be imprisoned or detained, or be put out of his possessions, or banished, without judgment of his peers in due course of law. *Copy.*

Barbados.

1665, June 15.—Declaration of Francis, Lord Willoughby of Parham with the advice of his Council, that if after the publication thereof any person should solicit signatures to any petition for the alteration of any matter established in his government or should maintain any plea against the jurisdiction of the Courts of Common Pleas as established, or should stir up the people to think that the Courts were not legally established, such person should be deemed an enemy of the public peace of the island and proceeded against accordingly. *Copy.*

James Walwyn to [Sir Robert Harley].

1665, July 3. Barbados—On business, and enclosing the two preceding papers.

Barbados.

1665, July 5.—Articles of high treason exhibited against Samuel Farmer by Francis, Lord Willoughby of Parham. *Copy. Incomplets.*

John Sturgeon to Sir Robert Harley.

1665, August 19—I and all my children are in good health notwithstanding that the plague is round about us. "Six deying the very nex wale to us. Heare are the frequent alarums of death. Heare is nothing but groaning and crying and dying. Carts are the beeres, wide pits are the graves. The carkasses of the dead may say with the sons of the prophets 'Behould the plase where we lye is to strait for us,' for they are not alowed to lye single in thare earthen beds but are pyled up like fagots in a stack for the society of thare future resurrection. Heare you may mett on pale ghost muffled up under the throat, another dragging his legs after him by reason of the tumor of his groyne, another bespotted with the tokens of instant death; and yet

the greatest plage of all is feu consider the reason why we are plaged." Very bad news has arrived this morning from our fleet. Twenty-ships under the command of Captain Teddeman fell upon the Dutch East Indian fleet in the harbour of Bergen in Norway. But the Danes from their castle and forts, and the Dutch from their ships, played so fiercely upon ours that they were beaten off with great loss. Six captains are killed, about five hundred men, and some ships made unserviceable, but all the ships got off. *Signet.*

WILLIAM PORTER to SIR ROBERT HARLEY.

1665, September 2. Bristol—News has arrived from Barbados of a difference between the Governor and the Assembly, which he had newly called and required to consider a tax for the fortification of the island. Instead of granting his request they immediately presented him with a petition, a copy of which I inclose, on which my Lord dissolved them and put several of them in prison for refusing to take an oath tendered to them. On their submitting they were all released except Mr Farmer their Speaker, who would not submit; for which his Excellency sent him a prisoner to the King in his own ship. The country, by report, very much commend Mr Farmer's bold action. *Signet.*

D. DE REPAS to SIR ROBERT HARLEY, at Brampton

1665, October 19. Oxford—I got into town with much ado, and only by saying the truth that I am as much and more your servant than any man living. I could not possibly get a place in any stable for my horse and so I let him lie in a court which proved a very good bed for him. "For news from Court I shall tell you that one cannot possibly know a woman from a man, unlesse one hath the eyes of a linx who can see through a wall, for by the face and garbe they are like men. They do not weare any hood but only men's perwick hatts and coats. There is no othere plague here but the infection of love; no other discourse but of ballets, dance, and fine clouse; no other emulation but who shall look the handsomere, and whose vermillion and spanish white is the best; none other fight then for 'I am yours.' In a word there is nothing here but mirth, and there is a talk that there shall be a proclamacon made that any melancoly man or woman coming in this towne shall be tourned out and put to the pillory, and there to be whep till he hath learned the way to be mary *à la mode.*" I hope to see you here. I have a chamber at your disposition. "My Lady Castelmaine is ready to lay in, and is still very much took upon by the King, as well as my Lady Stuard." The great favourites at Court are the Lord Chancellor, Lord Manchester, and another lord. *Signet.*

JAMES CROFT to SIR ROBERT HARLEY, at Brampton.

1665, November 11. Bristol—On business concerning Barbados *Signed. Signet.*

WILLIAM BYAM to JAMES WALWYN, in Barbados.

1665, November 22. Surinam—Advising the sale of Sir Robert Harley's property there.

Denis De Repas to Sir Robert Harley, at Brampton.

1665, November 24. Oxford—The three French ambassadors took their leave to-day. The King sent his own coach and twenty-two other coaches with six horses apiece to fetch them.

"The Duck of Monmouth gave last night a great balle to the Queene and to all the ladys of the Court, but very privattly. There was not a dozen of personnes in the roome besides the ladys and gentlemen who did dance; yet I was there from the beginning to the last amongst all the nobility and the beautys. I came there by the wheele of fortune. There was above four or five hundred people at the doore, but none could gett in. They did begin to dance about eight of the clock att night. The Queene came half an houre after and went awaye at eleven. The rest did dance till between one and two. The Queene dance all the while she was there with an extraordinary great modestye. They did dance altogether contrey dances, and did jumpe and leape as those creatures which live upon your mountaines. They were eleven or twelve ladys and as many courtiers. Mrs Stuard was there, who was extrordinary mary. After dancing she did sing four or five French songs, as well as I ever heard any woman sing. The French ambassadors are to go awaye a Wednesday next. The Bishop of Salsbury is to be buried a Saturday *in pontificalibus*, and the Dean of Westminster is to preach the funerall sermon. There are few here but be sory for his death. The Crock —— of the nation is in towne. The Prince Robert is gone to-day to hunting. My Lady Castellmaine is not yett brought to bed. My Lord Chancellor is still sick of the gouts. The King and all the Concell meet constantly three time a weeke att his house. My Lord Barkley hath no money to lend. The Ambassador of Danemark keepeth a very jolly Duch woman who singeth very well. The Portuigall Ambassador is thought to have a c——. Monsieur Courtin is a great courtier of ladys, and some say he doth not loose his labour. The towne is so full of lawyers that hardly one can goe in the streets. They are the jest of the Court and the hate of all people. Their cloase are as much out of date as their speech, which none can understand but when they ask their fees. Wee do hope in God they shall all goe out of the towne on Tuesday next, and all will blesse them with the saying of your good woman of Bath. They generally all curse this towne by reason that they cannot gett any lodgin. They did lay sixty last night in a barne full of haye, not far from my lodgin." *Signet.*

Sir Edward Harley to [the Earl of Clarendon].

1665, December 12. Brampton—Rebutting certain accusations brought against his brother Thomas and himself of want of loyalty to Church and State. *Copy.*

Francis Hall to [Sir Robert Harley].

1665, December 16. Cheapside—I am very glad to see your careful "temperatnesse as that you exceed in nothing, and that which is the maine, that which may afflict the *genus nervosum*, which is wine immoderate, and that which is worse, that which formerly was to frequent, viz. strong waters &c." Now that the sickness has moderated I hope we may have a freer intercourse.

The Earl of Clarendon to Sir Edward Harley, at Brampton.

1665, December 18. Saint John's College—Assuring him that he had received no recent information which had in any way been to his or his brother Thomas's prejudice. *Signed.*

John Champants to Sir Robert Harley, at Brampton.

1665[–6], January 5. London—I am glad to learn from Captain Grant that you are able to ride abroad.

Sir Robert Harley.

1665[–6], January 8—Apothecary's bill from the 8th April 1664 up to date, amounting to 75*l.* 12*s.* 4*d.* Including an old account of 12*l.* The items are chiefly in the months of April, May, and June 1664.

The Duke of Albemarle to Sir Robert Harley.

1665–6 [January] 20. Cockpit—Asking him to pay to Jane Brooke widow, the arrears due to her husband Captain Samuel Brooke. *Signed. Seal of arms.*

Sir E. H[arley] to the [Earl of Clarendon,] Lord Chancellor.

1665[–6], January 28. Brampton—Thanking him for his letter and for all his kindness. *Copy.*

Captain John Grant to Sir Robert Harley, at Brampton.

1665–6, February 16. London—I doubt not you have heard of Mr Farmer whom my Lord [Willoughby] sent over [from Barbados] with a high charge against him; so that by the interest of Mr Willoughby and some others he was put in prison. He has had his liberty however within these last few days and is very gallant with his sword by his side. Yesterday I made occasion to be acquainted, and he was very glad to hear of you and wished you were not so far away. He told me the King and Council began to be sensible of the equity of his cause, and have accepted his petition and have promised him a hearing on Tuesday next. I asked him if he knew Lord Ashley, he said no, but that he heard he was a worthy person and my Lord's enemy. I told him I heard my Lord Willoughby was commanded over, and he said it was true.

Denis De Repas to Sir Robert Harley, at Brampton.

1665[–6], March 8. London—I give thanks that I am so well recovered. I am sure that you would have laughed if you knew how it happened and the tumbling there was amongst fourteen or fifteen women who for the most part were upon me, and then how we got to our inn and spent the night, being all hurt and bruised. Never Don Quixote nor Sancho Panza had like adventures. I have been fed like a child for a fortnight but now am pretty well. I have sent the news to Sir Edward who will acquaint you with all; "one only which I doe

not send him is about my Lady Castelmaine who being att Oxford, this pasquin was sett in the night upon her door:

The reason why she is not duck'd
Is because she is by Cæsar ——.

A 1000*l.* was profered to any one who should discover the author. You know that the custume of Oxford is to duck all the w——." *Signet.*

CAPTAIN JOHN GRANT to SIR ROBERT HARLEY.

1665–6, March 10. London—About Lord Willoughby's coming it is variously reported. Champants told me they had got a letter of license upon his request, but Mr Farmer told me he was commanded over.

Mr Farmer told me he was to have a hearing on Friday, but unfortunately Lord Ashley has gone into Dorsetshire and will not be back by that time, which is a great trouble to him. *Signet.*

WILLIAM MASON to his cousin, HENRY POWELL, at the Garne.

1665[–6], March 14. London.—I am resolved to go out in this fleet. There was no employment at Barbados and I tried many other places. If you write, please to direct your letter to my cousin Jeremiah's shop.

SAMUEL FARMER, Speaker of the Assembly of Barbados to the KING.

1665[–6], March 16—A statement of his case in the matter of the charge brought against him by Lord Willoughby. *Copy. Read before the King and Council.*

The KING and COUNCIL.

1665–6, March 16. Worcester House—Order made, after hearing the preceding statement of Samuel Farmer, that the King would take the matter into consideration, but being much dissatisfied with the proceeding of Samuel Farmer, that he should give security in two 1,000*l.* bonds with two sureties, to attend the King and Council whenever summoned, and not to depart the kingdom without licence. *Copy.*

MATTHEW, BISHOP OF ELY.

1665[–6], March 23.—Order for the induction of William Corker to the vicarage of Barrington in the County of Cambridge. *Signed.*

D. DE REPAS to [SIR ROBERT HARLEY].

1665[6], March 24. London—Giving an account of a visit to Osterley to try and obtain some money owing to Sir Robert Harley by Mr Waller and his wife. *Incomplete.*

JANE BROOKE to the [EARL OF CLARENDON,] Lord Chancellor.

1666, April 5—An answer to a letter from Sir Robert Harley to the Lord Chancellor, dated April 3, 1666, concerning the arrears due to her husband, Captain Samuel Brooke.

DENIS DE REPAS to SIR ROBERT HARLEY, at Brampton.

1666, April 14. London—According to your command I have bought six pounds of the best Virginia tobacco in the leaf, at twenty pence the pound. I also bought two gross of corks for glass bottles which cost six shillings. You also sent me word to send a black French hat but you did not say for whom, nor how big it must be; besides there are hardly any in town at the hatsellers. *Signet.*

CAPTAIN JOHN GRANT to [SIR ROBERT HARLEY].

1666, April 17. I am sorry to hear that you are not well, but I should be more sorry that anything I have written should augment your indisposition. I was forced to write it by my necessities.

N OUDART to the [EARL OF CLARENDON,] Lord [Chancellor].

1666, April 23. Westminster—My sister [Brooke] being advised by the Lord General to take her remedy in law against Sir R Harley for the two months pay he detains from her, has made Mr Mayo her attorney to "wage a suite" before you.

DENIS DE REPAS to SIR ROBERT HARLEY, at Brampton.

1666, April 25. London—Mr Waller called upon me yesterday and told me he had paid the money you lent him at Dunkirk. He showed me a discharge, but not from you. *Signet.*

SIR ROBERT MORAY to SIR EDWARD HARLEY, at Brampton.

1666, June 8. Silver Mills—Concerning a reported discovery on Sir Edward Harley's property of lead mines containing lead to the value of fifty to sixty pounds sterling per ton. *Signet.*

D. DE REPAS to SIR ROBERT HARLEY, at the White Hart lodgings in Bath.

1666, July 4. London—The Dutch are reported to have a hundred sail ready, besides the Danes with thirty sail more, and the French. We have one hundred and thirty which I hope will do their business. It is certain our last fleet was not half manned and an over great confidence hindered a greater victory. I heard from France they had a design to land 40000 French and 15000 Dutch, in hopes that they would find some rebel party here to join them. The press is extraordinarily great here. There are few hackney coaches to be seen, as the coachmen have been or are afraid to be pressed. "Yesterday morning a minister passing by our door saw two of his friends pressed. He told to the press-master they had no conscience to take men who had four or five children and a wife. They told him to goe about his businesse, he told them 'he had rather preste me had you not.' They ask him who he was. 'A minister of God' saith he. 'Nay then you must come with us, you are so much the fitter, you shall pray while the others fight; and so they carrid away." They are raising two or three regiments of horse, and anyone is admitted provided he furnish himself with a horse. *Signet.*

Denis de Repas to Sir Edward Harley, at Brampton.

1666, September 8. Westminster—Giving an account of the fire of London.

Richard Stephens to his brother[-in-law], Sir Edward Harley, at Brampton.

1666, Sept. 11th—"At our returne from our westerne friends—which was on Fryday night—I found a letter from you, and last night Pirks brought another. All in these parts are sad almost to amazement at that dreadfull desolation of London. Yesterday morning I dispatched a messenger thither to inquire of our friends, especially my sister Broomefield. This afternoone Gyles Birke came to mee, who came from London on Satirday in the afternoone, tells mee hee walked from Temple Barr to Cheapeside, thence to Blackewell Hall, and to Colman Street, and nothing left but rubbish and ashes. Hee saw the place, where my brother Broomefield's house stood, but could not heare where hee or my sister were. Some part of Wood Streete is standing, but by his relation my Ant Warberton's house is burnt. It is burnt from the Tower to Temple Barr. He conceives nine parts of tenn of the citty is burnt, and it came to Holborne as farr as Hatton garden. Part of the Inner Temple is burnt, but hee says hee beelieves the Middle is wholly standing. Hee could not heare by any of understanding that any fire-balls were throwne, or that French or Dutch were instrumentall in doing it; but that many blame the Lord Mayor for not pulling houses downe time enough. I suppose my brother Broomefield may have preserved most of his chiefe goods, for I heare many have so done, whose houses were nearer the place the fire began. Many of our clothiers have lost many thousand pounds worth of cloth, given of all trading, so that wee begin already to feele the losse by the multitude of poore.

Some of our clothiers that hapned to bee up at the beginning of the fire saved most of their cloth, and some whose factors were prudent and carefull. The General came to London on Fryday, and 'tis sayde the King should speake of good successe hee had at sea, but what that was, was not divulged. I can not but feare, that the consequences of this great judgement may prove very bad to this nation. I praye God to helpe us in this time of trouble and destraction. I expect my brother Cholmeley here this weeke, if this great judgement alter not his resolutions. I thanke you for the horse, and shall ere long returne him. I praye God preserve and comfort the whole nation." *Signet.*

D. de Repas to Sir Robert Harley, at Brampton.

[1666, September]—"Of all the time I have been in England I did never dislike my being here but fiye days of last week, wherein I was half dead by the word of killing all French and Duch. Yett I have no reason to complaine of Englismen for that allarum but only of English women, who only caused that tumult, having their *corps de gards* in severall streets and did knock downe severall strangers for not speaking good English. Some of them were armed with spitts, some with bread staffs, and the captaine with a broad sword. I thank God it hath been proved that this lamentable fire came only by meer accedent or rather from the hand of God. I did send a relation of it to Sir Edward. All people have had a very great losse by it except porters, cartsmen, and beggers. I have seen given five pounds for a

load of good from Cheapside to Weasminster, and myself have given nine shellengs to a porter for a burden. Every one thinks his losse the greatest, and for my own part I doe think I have lost as much as any one with proportion. But in all this the will of God be done. I was upon great dessiens of trafic, but all is vanish like a dreame. In my very great losse I [am] very much bound to give thanks to God that I have not loste more."

Since I saw you I have spent my time well "having given myself wholly to musick, which I hope will make me fitter for a nobleman's house. I had some knowledge being in France, but I had almost forgotten it. I have learne to play upon the virginal, flageollett, viollin, and guittard."

All the talk here is "of building London the most noble city that can be. Some say that the King and Parliament are to buy the whole land of London and to build upon, but the truth is that there is no certainty yet what they will doe. Only this I shall tell you that they doe not give leave to any one to build up his house where it stood."

N. Foxcroft to —— Boyle.

1666, September 11. Fort Saint George, Coromandel Coast—Giving an account of the virtues of the snake stone, supposed to be carried by snakes in their mouths and a remedy for bites and stings. Also giving a detailed account of the Island of Johanna in 13 deg north latitude and of the Maldive Islands and their inhabitants. *Sixteen pages. Copy.*

Thomas Bromfield to [his wife,] Kate Bromfield, at Stanstead Hall, Essex.

1666, September 17—As for what you write about the house, no pains shall be wanting to please you, but it cannot at present be done. Houses are ten times dearer than ever they were. Many tradesmen must have houses for their trade or perish. Many booths are being set up in the fields and many places. As for this house I am doing myself all convenience in respect of my calling and trade to please you. It is a pretty, sweet house and pleasant as can be, and big enough to satisfy me as the condition and poverty of the times are. But if you think not well of it and are content where you are or in any other place, I shall be content to do this away. As for the wetness of the cellar there is a well in it, and when the well is full there is a pump which draws it all dry. There is a small wash house, a good furnace, and leaden cistern and the water comes into the house. It stands as well as any in London as the times are; but I will not write anything to persuade you against your mind. I have no felicity or comfort to be in London were it not for your satisfaction, as I can do my business in any place, therefore I shall "harken after" some place in the country. *Signet.*

The Same to the Same.

[16]66, September 21—I will with all convenient speed hasten to my "new plantation" which I hope will please you, till I can build up my old remains. That which I have done has been done wholly to satisfy you; otherwise I would not have taken a house in the City. *Signet.*

The Same to the Same.

1666, September 24—Concerning the house and the choice of servants for herself and her daughter. *Signet.*

Sir Edward Harley to Lady Harley, at Brampton.

[16]66, October 8. Oxford—I came here safely on Saturday. I take the coach here and hope to be in Westminster on Thursday.

The Same to the Same.

[16]66, October 9. Westminster—I hear the House is not yet called so I am in no danger of the fine. At Essington I found my brother and sister very well. Cholmley and Robin looked pale after their ague. Little Henry had a fit the day I came there. I saw your nephew Fitz James at Oxford. He is a fine youth. My sister gave me little hope of seeing Bel; the plague is near their house in Bristol, so I pray you think of making some other bodies for the children, but so as their collars may be worn.

Captain William Porter to Sir Robert Harley, in Herefordshire.

1666, October 11. Barbados—"With due respects I present to your serious consideration, the sad and unfortunate sucsess the Lord Willoughby received in his Majestye's service against the Freinch. As soone as his lordship understood the Freinch ware in armes at St. Christofer's his lordshipe sent his nephew, Leftenant Generall Willoughby with fifteen hundred souldiers or there abought to asist the Inglish for the subdueing the Freinch, together with thirtey sayle of ships neare, all of them marchants' ships, deepe laden for Ingland. When they came to Antegoe, and understood St. Christofer's was delivered up to the Freinch and that they had a considerable flete there of Freinch and Duch shipes of war, our deepe laden marchants' ships durst not fight them, landed the leftenant generall and souldiers at Antegoe, proseded on there voyage for Ingland, after notis given his lordshipe of the Inglish beaton of St. Christofer's to Nevice. Here arived two of his royall navey ships. His Exselencey prest eight of our best marchant ships, man'd and gun'd them from the iland, with them neare one thousand souldiours. For the more juditious performance of his Majestie's service, his Exselencey himselfe went in person. Collonel Edmond Read, Leftenant Collonel Davice, Docter Petter Carouse, sence we have a small vessell from Nevice, doth give us a very sad account of our flete and Lord Willoughby. The first Freinch iland they came to called Guordelope, the Lord Willoughby sent the Vice Admirall with two ships more and a catch to take two or three ships which ware in the harbor, which they soone performed. One blowed up himselfe, and as they ware bringing them out of the harbor, the rest of our flete, being before the harbor, were by a voyolent storme careyed, where the Admirall and fowre ships more ware never heard of, being nine or ten weeks sence. His lordshipe's couch he lay on, drove ashore at Mounsaratt, and som peesis of a ship. Wherefore he is fered to be lost. Where ever the other fowre be, the *Allice* of Poole and a small fire ship is all that is known to be saved. One of them carryed to Mounserat, the other to Nevice. The Vice Admirall with the resst were all blone ashore one a little iland before the harbor they

ware coming out. Fowre hundred of our men and upward got ashore with there armes and beat the Freinch out of there workes and kept it to or three days, landed fortey barrells of powder, and might have kept it, had not the ship captain bin a traytor and coward, put up a flagg of truse and delivered them all prisinors; for with one or two resoulute persons in a small boat with great haszard of ther lifes got to Antego, where Leftenant Genrall Henry Willoughby had long laine in expectation of the fleet which he then understod was disperced and lost. He haveing five small vesells in Fine Iland harbour, when the hurrycane began, two of them being cast away, the other three he spedyly set forth to fetch our men from the Freinch island, supposing to mete with no resistance, the Freinch ships being cast away. There being sevin newly arived from Metheroes, that tooke two of our leftenant generall's vessells, aboute two hundred souldiers in them, he naryly escaped him selfe in a small catch that sayled well to Nevice, where he now is, and have sent to this iland for ships to carry his souldiers to St. Christofer's. By credible reports and letters of those returned to us, the Freinch hath above eight hundred of our souldiers from the Berbadoes, prisinors, besides those that hath bin redemed at 3000 lb. of sugar, per man. I doe not understand they made aney prisinors at St. Christofer's, but suppozed them to goe of with there moveables, except horse and instruments of war. If his Majestey ware justly inform'd how much this iland is wekened in men, armes and ammunition by setting forth these ships, he would soone take care for streingthening us against soe powerfull an enemy."

Sir Edward Harley to [Lady Harley].

[16]66, October 20. Westminster—I beseech God keep our family from the small pox. There are inconveniences by the neighbourhood of the poor but the advantages are greater not only in the exercise of duties to them but in receiving from them remembrances of what we are subject to, and that we, as well as they, depend upon our Heavenly Father. I do not perceive that Sir John FitzJames is worse in health; he seldom fails at the House. "At the committee concerning the firing of London many strange discoveries have been made about it, so that it is strongly presumed it was done by villany. It is proved that several persons, papists, Irish, and French, spake of it to theyr friends before the fire began. During the fire persons were really taken who had about them composition of wildfire, but would not give any account of themselves, and strangely escaped in the tumult. The baker of Pudding Lane in whose house the fire began makes it evident that no fire was left in his oven, that the coales were raked up in the chimney, that the fagotts left in the oven, and several pots of baked meat as is usual for Lord's day dinner were not touched by the fire, and so found intire several dayes after the citty was in ashes, that his daughter was in the bakehous at twelve of the clock, that between one and two his man was waked with the choak of the smoke; the fire begun remote from the chimney and oven. His mayd was burnt in the hous, not adventuring to escape as he, his daughter, who was much scorched, and his man did out of the windore and gutter. One Hubert, a Frenchman of Roan, a watchmaker, about the ending of the fire was aprehended at Romfort going as he thought, towards sea, and being questioned whether he was one of the villaynes that fired London, confessed it. Afterwards he sayd some extravagant things that savored of a distempered mind, but he persisted in his confession of the fact, and to a friend of his father,

one Mr Greaves, a discreet person, averred that he was certayn he had done it; and being brought by an officer to find the place, Hubert did twice both on horseback and on foot goe to the baker's hous and sayd 'this was the hous that I fired.' He sayd he was hired by one Pie-de-low—a Frenchman allso and a notorious rogue—and that there were twenty-two more of the confederacy. He was executed this week still owning the fact, and though at first he said he was a protestant, at his death he proffessed himself a papist, and was confessed and absolved by the Queene's confessor. The members of the Hous from all parts are full of alarmes concerning the papists. A Committee is appoynted to examine the truth of such reports. I desire to know if there be any ground for that story that a Papist should say that there should shortly be seen an army rise from under a furs bush, or if there be any just grounds to suspect an insurrection from any other sectaries."

The Same to the Same.

[16]66, October 27. Westminster—In my last I told you of general apprehensions of the Papists, grounded upon many of their insolent expressions. Yesterday the House voted that the King be desired to command that the laws against Popish priests be put in execution, that the Papists be disarmed, and that all officers or soldiers be enjoined to take the oath of allegiance and supremacy, and the Sacrament. Sir Richard Brown produced some desperate daggers, fit for massacres, two hundred of which were found in the rubbish of a house in London, wherein before the fire two French persons lodged.

It is reported that ten ships from Nevis and Barbados have been carried into Brest.

William Hayman to Sir Robert Harley.

1666, October 29. Bristol—Informing him of the approaching departure of the fleet for Virginia and Barbados. *Signet.*

Sir R. H[arley] to Colonel Byam, Governor of Surinam.

1666, October 30. Brampton—Stating his desire to dispose of all his interests in Surinam. *Copy.*

Sir Edward Harley to [Lady Harley].

[16]66, November 3. Westminster—The King has agreed to the desires of both houses against the Papists.

The Same to the Same.

[16]66, November 6—Informing her that he had an attack of the gout.

The Same to the Same.

[16]66, November 10—I went abroad for the first time this afternoon, but hardly dare travel before Tuesday. I have sent your things by the Ludlow carrier. There are things for the children in the box which you must be so just to me as not to let them see or have an inkling of till I come. Last night the Horse guard house over against Whitehall was

on fire, occasioned by a drunken groom in the hayloft. The fire was quenched with only the loss of that part of the guard house next Wallingford House.

Denis De Repas to Sir Robert Harley, at Brampton.

1666, December 18. London—On Tuesday last "my Lord Loserdall his daughter was married to a Scotch lord, whose name is Fitts or Pitts; upon some occasion I was forced to bee there. The King gave her. She is very homely and like a monkey, clothed with gold and silver. He seemeth to deserve such a wife and no more. The weding did continue four or five days yett but onikindly." A gentleman was found murdered in Lincolns Inn Fields this morning.

Lady Castlemaine lives as retired as a nun. She has not been seen at ball or play since the fire.

If it pleases God to spare my life for twenty years I hope to see all France cast off the authority of the Pope, which they do by degrees. The Pope's nuncio went lately to the Council to complain of the King's usurpation of his Holiness or rather "Devilishlesse" authority, by disposing absolutely of some bishopricks. They told him "*quand sa Saintété sera Roy de France, il en fera à sa fantaisie.*" Two or three days after a pamphlett was made to persuade the King to do as Henry the Eighth did. It is certain that in twenty or thirty years there will not be any monastery left by the two acts the King has done lately.

The French King has done and still does very just and convenient acts. The streets of Paris are now as secure in the night as in the day. "Every housekeeper upon penalty of a considerable some of money ought to wash every morning the part of the street before his house, and so the streets are clean and sweett. There is an order to be kept very strict that every one shall weare cloase according his vocation; none did grumble more at this then women. There is a speciall shute for a citizen woman, and for another." *Signet.*

The Same to the Same.

1666, December 22. London—Upon Tuesday last the Duke of Buckingham and the Marquis of Worcester were sent to the Tower by reason of a controversy between them at a committee. It is said the Duke took the Marquis by the nose and pulled him about.

Last Wednesday some seamen being sent to Newgate for discontented words, about six hundred other seamen went to rescue them and broke open the prison gates. The Life Guards and several companies were sent there and some of them were apprehended, but forgiven by the Duke of York.

I wish you a merry Christmas. I am like not to eat plum-porridge by reason that plums are eighteen pence a pound this year. *Signet.*

The Same to the Same.

1666, December 29. London—Asking him to try to obtain him a situation as secretary in a nobleman's family. *Signet.*

The Navy.

1666—A scheme for equipping and maintaining the fleet with the least charge to the King and people.

Denis de Repas to Sir Robert Harley.

1666[–7], January 5. London—The only discourse at Court and in town is about the French who are embarking 20,000 men. None know yet their intent. Some say they will land in Ireland, others in England, others say they are for Barbados, and others say Flanders. They press here apace for seamen and soldiers. I would they were all quiet. This is very hard weather to go to sea. The most part of the Thames is frozen, and it is thought one may venture over within two days. Fireing is so dear that I spend as much on it as on victuals.

The Duchess of York treated the King and Queen and the whole Court yesterday at Kingston. My Lord Arlington did the like the day before.

It is reported for certain that Lord Willoughby is dead with the rest, and that his brother has the place. *Signet.*

Sir R. Moray to Sir Robert Harley, at Brampton.

1666–7, January 25. Whitehall—On private affairs. *Signet.*

Lord Ashley to Timothy Colles.

1666[–7]. March 1. Exeter House—Concerning proceedings taken against Lady Eure and her son for the payment of their assessments.

Thomas Doughty to Sir Edward Harley, at Brampton.

1666[–7], March 4. Legsby—Congratulating him on his recovery from a "London fever." *Signet.*

William, Lord Willoughby to Sir Robert Harley.

1666[–7], March 4. On board the *John and Margaret*—"I am now banging it about the middle of the Bay of Biskey with south west wind and from the lands." When I come "nearer the troppicks I intend God willing, to bestrid the *Jersy* frigatt with twenty-five guns of a side. I have had some few chases but the blustering weather hath earthed the old Renards. My finders crost of some hayres but I called off. Thus att sea and land I am the same."

D. Mitchell to her sister[-in-law, Lady Harley].

1667, July 10. Raynham—Giving an account of her own and her children's ailments and the treatment employed.

Margaret, Lady FitzJames to her sister, Lady Harley.

[16]67, October 28. Leicester—We are all well here but the small pox is so bad at Oxford that we intend to send for Jack home this week. After I parted from you I could not tell how to find myself or what to do, for want of so many good friends. I hope you will further my brother in the visit he promised to make hither, for I never was acquainted with him till at Fairfield, and I have that high esteem of him and that real love for him that I shall be glad of any occasion that may make me know him more fully, for I believe him to be one of those that the more I know of him the more I shall love him. *Signet.*

D. MITCHELL to her sister[-in-law], LADY HARLEY.

1667, November 18. Stiffkey—I received last week your dear letter and very kind token which is very good and came seasonably to me as I was just then providing blankets and such kind of things for my little one.

I am very weak and much troubled with fainting fits. If it pleases the Lord to take me away you will lose a very faithful friend. Your god-daughter is in London with Lady Westmoreland.

[SIR ROBERT MORAY] to SIR EDWARD HARLEY, to be delivered at the door of the House of Commons.

[16]67, November 18. Edinburgh—"Had there been nothing else in your last but the account it gives me of your self and your brother, that had made me tell you it is exceeding wellcom. But you add other things which do exact of me a return that this place cannot afford, so that how acceptable soever they be, I am unwilling to solicite the continuance of your trouble in that kinde, when thanks is all you can have for it. All that I can tell you of things here is that the bonds appointed to be signed by the noblemen and gentlemen in our western shires for keeping of the publick peace have been signed very cheerfully and unanimously, and the forces ordered to quarter there away, are marched to their severall garrisons, so that all is in great quiet everywhere, blest be God. When either you or any considerable emergent gives me cause to reiterate your trouble, you may expect it. This I direct as you advised, but still think the adress of your lodging will be surest. If the Earle of Tweeddale cometh for you, deny him not your acquaintance but use him as you do me. You will finde him worthy of your friendship.

I forgot to tell you that I presume our president is not at all dangerously concerned in the matter of the navy accounts, but he helps some of his associates over a stile, that are so ill accountants as not to be able to help themselves."

DOCTOR TONG to SIR EDWARD HARLEY.

[16]67, November 18—Proposals for benefitting the condition of the oor in England.

[SIR EDWARD HARLEY] to [LADY HARLEY.]

[16]67, November 23—"Little progress is made in the impeachment of the Earl of Clarendon. The Lords are not yet satisfied to committ upon a general impeachment without special matter. About twenty-three Lords have entred theyr protestation on behalf of the Commons, of which the Duke of Albemarle is one and the Bishop of Hereford another. Yesterday a great act of justice was don upon a member of the House of Commons, Mr. John Ashburnham, who, for taking a bribe of 500*l.* from some French merchants last sessions, was turned out of the House. More are in chace for the like vertue."

RICHARD STEPHENS to his sister [LADY HARLEY?]

1667, November 23. Essington—Deborah Dangerfield is here. Lady Doyly is brought to bed of a boy. Last Saturday Lady Castleton died of the measles or small pox. She continued bleeding at the nose till she died.

JAMES WALWYN to COLONEL WILLIAM BYAM, in Surinam.

1667, November 29. Barbados—Near about the time when Surinam was surrendered to the Dutch I received these two letters, one from Sir Robert Harley and the other from Mr. Knightly. There is a report that Surinam is to be quitted or returned to the Dutch. *Signed.*

[SIR EDWARD HARLEY] to [LADY HARLEY.]

[16]67, December 7—Since my last letter "the Lords sent to the Hous of Commons the Earl of Clarendon's petition and address, who upon the reading of it voted it scandalous, seditious, and a reproch of the King and the justice of the kingdome, and that it be burnt by the hand of the hangman; to which the Lords concurrence is desired. A bil for his perpetual banishment is brought into the Lords House. The Earl landed at Callice Wendsday morning last."

PEREGRINE PALMER to his sister[-in-law], LADY HARLEY, at Brampton.

1667, December 11. London—This day the House is prorogued till the 14th of February. Sir Edward dined with us and intends to come to you next week. My brother Robert Stephens has been ill but is better. My cousin John FitzJames has had the small-pox but he is past the worst and my sister FitzJames is expected to be in London to day. *Signet.*

SIR EDWARD HARLEY to LADY HARLEY, at Brampton.

[16]67, December 17. Westminster—I hope to begin my journey this week. The House will not adjourn before Thursday next. We are upon a Bill of banishment of the Earl of Clarendon, which has occasioned much debate. Thank Bril for her letter.

SIR ROBERT HARLEY to his brother, SIR EDWARD HARLEY, at Brampton.

1667-8, January 4. Westminster—"Yesterday I dined at Goring House with my Lord Arlington. He comanded me to write to you that the Marquesse of Worcester came to him—Lord A—before he—the Marquesse—went out of towne. After other discourse Lord Arlington spoke to Lord Marquesse of you. Lord Marquesse spoke many good words of you. Lord Arlington sayd then to Lord Marquesse that the King had comanded Lord Arlington to tell Lord Marquesse that he—the King—had such an esteeme for you every way that the King did not think fitt that you should lye by unused, and that it was the King's pleasure that you should comand the regiment of foote in Herefordshire. The Lord Marquesse answered that the reason why heretofore you had not comand there was because you were a presbeterian and that there was *some or one*—these words I did not heare plainely for my Lord Arlington crowded them together with a smile—that were against it. My Lord Arlington did intimate that he spake something more after the comon manner of your being a presbeterian; Lord Arlington replyed that the King comanded the Lord Marquesse to offer you the comand of the regiment without any more adoe." *Signet.*

P. Colleton to Sir Robert Harley.

1667[-8], February 16—An invitation to dinner.

Captain John Grant to Sir Robert Harley, in Tothill Street, Westminster.

1667[-8], March 21. Salisbury—I have received a letter from my wife which informs me that you are undertaking a command for Holland. I am glad to hear that your health is in condition to permit you to undertake it. I am involved in an unfortunate business here concerning the hearth money for the County of Wilts. If you could get me off that, I would serve you in any capacity. *Signet.*

Richard Boyce to [Sir Robert Harley].

1668, June 20—Sending him two dozen bottles of brandy and other strong waters.

M. Lady Fitz James to her sister, Lady Harley, at Brampton.

1668, July 4. Leverton—Concerning proposals for a marriage between her daughter Grace and the son of Sir Trevor Williams of Llangibby in Monmouthshire.

[The Justices of the Peace for Herefordshire] to the Marquis of Worcester, Lord Lieutenant of Herefordshire.

1668, August 20. Hereford—We met here to-day to take account of the three months assessment raised by virtue of the Militia Act upon this county. We find the accounts so ravelled and perplexed that we cannot understand them and therefore beg your Lordship to send us a copy of the account already presented to you. *Copy in Sir Edward Harley's handwriting.*

James [Duke of York] to ———.

1668, August 26. Saint James's—An enquiry into the state of the King's navy and the deportment of the officers entrusted with the management of the different parts thereof. *Copy. Twenty-eight pages.*

The Lords of the Council to [the Justices of the Peace] in Herefordshire.

1668, September 28. The Court at Whitehall—Order prohibiting any person from being elected to the office of Mayor, bailiff, sheriff, alderman, town clerk, or to any other office in any city or borough in the kingdom, who had not taken the oath and declaration appointed by the statute of the 13th of His Majesty's reign. *Copy.*

WILLIAM BYAM to [SIR ROBERT HARLEY].

1668, November 6. Antigua—The last I received from you was of the 30th of October [16]66 from Brampton Castle, advising the sale of what you had in Surinam, which arrived not to my hands till December last. The sad miseries which war and pestilence brought on that colony I formerly advised, but lest my letters have been misguided I shall present you with a short account of that unfortunate colony which you well know.

In June [16]66 I received orders to erect a fort at Pramorabo, and to attack the French at Wynwad, at Cheyan, and Synnamaru, which was done with great success, taking the fort of Synnamaru by storm, and brought the governor and near fifty prisoners to Surinam; and for fear that the Dutch and Arwalas Leward should in the mean attempt us in the absence of our forces, I sent a fleet of periagos to fall on their quarters, which was so fully prosecuted that they brought up about seventy slaves. At the return of our forces, which was in August following, we were visited with such a contagious pestilence that in a short time we lost a great part of the chiefest men of the land. This retarded our fort, and spread over all the country. In February following arrived a Dutch fleet from Zealand, by the advice of Scott, to take the colony, which found us in a most weak condition, near half our men dead, and half that were living, miserably weak, ill armed, and our fort not half built, but one bastion perfected. Viewing our exposed condition they came with four frigates to an anchor very near the fort, where they battered with all the nimble fury they could for three hours, and our walls being but half built, commanded from their frigates the inside of the fort. I had but five barrels of powder which was spent to fifty weight and that very bad. They then landed about seven hundred men with scaling ladders, grenades &c., and finding our works not tenable nor ammunition to defend them, if they had been finished, I called a council of war of all the officers and gentlemen that were with me and surrendered with their advice upon most honourable terms. I had about ninety men, such as they were, with me, most of which immediately clave to the Dutch. From hence I went up to Toorarica where rallying all that ever I could with Jews and all, old and young, sick and well, I could reach but to a hundred and sixty-eight, and then with the advice of the Council and desire of the country we articled with the Dutch, and the sooner because we expected every minute a French fleet. In our capitulations we stood very much for the same terms for all absent persons interested in the colony as for ourselves, which by no means they would grant, having positive orders from their States to confiscate all absent persons estates, which the defection of our people, our weakness, sickness and other necessities, enforced us to condescend unto. You had at this time a very thriving stock of cattle at St. Johns where I placed William Gwilt and a negro woman of yours to look to them, having as you advised me at Barbados sold your small plantation in Para to Captain Whitaker for 4500 lb sugar. After the taking of the country the Dutch brought your cattle from St. Johns to Parham and the negro woman—who had brought forth a mulatto—where some they killed and disposed of others. They had now at beginning of October [16]67 completed the fort, having had near a hundred and sometimes a hundred and fifty negroes constantly at work, about which time Sir John Harman after the taking of Cheyan arrived with his fleet, and Lieutenant General Henry Willoughby with two regiments. The foot having surrounded the fort, Sir John

Harman on the 7th of October came up in the *Bonadventure* with several frigates attending him, and having his round tops well manned with small shot, dropped anchor near the fort, and immediately beat them off their guns. He began about seven in the morning, and about one they put out a flag of truce, upon which the seamen and soldiers ran to the battered walls, and got up and took the Dutch governor as he was drawing articles. The fort being taken it was declared by a council of war of the land officers that whatever was confiscated by the Dutch and whatever was theirs else of right, did now properly belong to them, they having gained it by the sword, without any articles made with the enemy, nor had they any other reward for their service, being not in pay. Upon which they commanded down all negroes that were in the Dutch possession and such as were not paid for to the Dutch; amongst the rest, all those at Parham, where the negro woman and mulatto was; the which the soldiers gave the Lieutenant General for his share, and then carried off and divided the rest at Barbados. About the 1st of November following the fleet set sail from Surinam, and about the beginning of December after, Lieutenant General H. Willoughby returned in the *Bonadventure*, sent thither to bring off His Majesty's subjects, the colony being to revert to the Dutch, with whom I came off, with my family, but most of my negroes and goods I put aboard the *Willoughby* frigate, which Captain Clarke and I hired to sail for Antigua. Some few days after our arrival at Barbados came the Lieutenant General's negroes in another ship, which he had freighted for them, and also the negro woman and mulatto, which Mr. James Walwyn your attorney hearing of, made application to His Excellency for her, which Mr. Walwyn told me he promised he should have, but whether he afterwards received her, I know not.

Sir, there is one thing I must acquaint you, that one Sandford, who went off for Nevis with the Dutch fleet, one of our colony, and brother to Robert Sandford, being an inveterate and malicious enemy of mine, and not dreaming the colony would ever be reduced to His Majesty's obedience, gave out and averred that I had betrayed the country to the Dutch, and had carried myself with the greatest base treachery and cowardice as ever villain did, upon which after the retaking of the country I was called before a court martial and there tried, where I was acquitted with exceeding great honour, they presenting me unasked with an attestation of my honourable carriage in that service; and Sandford afterward denied the report, and in the presence of Sir John Harman and the Lieutenant General, gave me his recantation under his hand.

Sir, whilst I was in Barbados, I would have perfected accounts with Mr. Wallwyn your attorney, but all my papers being gone before in the *Willoughby* I could not. I have now sent him my account between us, in which I have charged you debtor for 5000 lb sugar, which I gave Mr. Treffrye, or else he would have confiscated that which was in Mr. Westrope's hand, Captain Marten's executor, and also that 4500 lb in Captain Whitaker's hands: what remains still in Westrope's hands I have secured, being about 13000 lb, and I am lately advised I shall receive it. I have desired Mr. Walwyn to remit you a copy of the account for the clearing, of which I have by very great providence all the papers preserved.

Sir, I am now beginning to hew a new fortune out of the woods in Antigua, where hardship must be my fare for a time till I can make goods and raise a stock, and till then I hope you will forbear the balance of the account I owe you.

If I may serve you or any friend of yours that comes into these parts let me beg the employ, and I shall do it most faithfully, being still very sensible of the great obliging favours undeservedly received from you.

An account of some of the chiefest that died in Surinam in the late mortality.

Colonel Christopher Legard.
Captain George Marten.
Serjeant Major Thomas Noell.
Captain Francis Starky.
Captain William Edlyn.
Lieutenant Henry Long.
Mr. Seymour Straunge.
Captain Robert Colvile.
Mr. Paul Young.
Mr. Thomas Gray.
Mr. John Deerihum.
Captain John Parker.
Captain Bartholomew Washington.
Mr. Stephen Woodroffe.
Mr. Asgod Kingsmill.
Mr. John Blygh.
Captain Thomas Sanderson.
Colonel Ely: Elye.
Captain Augustine Story.
Mr. Thomas Quinton.
Mr. Thomas Davys.
Mr. Thomas Marten.
Ensign John Durham.
Mr. Henry Adys.
Mr. Richard Woodstocke.
Mr. Robert Chapman.
Mr. William Coxe.
Mr. Richard Knightly.
Mr. Thomas Wale.
Capt. Bevell Rawdon.
Capt. Robert Collinson.
Mr. Francis Sandford.
Several Jews.

With many others at least five hundred. By which you may judge what a miserable time of sickness we have had.

Francis Hall to Sir Robert Harley, at Brampton.

1668-9, January 8. Old Southampton Buildings—Enclosing a fresh copy of his bill of drugs supplied to Sir Robert, and his sister, Madame Stanley.

Richard Sadler to Sir Edward Harley, at Brampton.

[16]68-9, January 12. Whixall—Thanking him for kind entertainment, and praying God to assist the Church.

Lord Townshend to his kinsman, Sir Edward Harley.

[16]68-9, January 24. Raynham—Dissuading him from pressing his sister Mitchell to come in the spring with her children to Brampton Bryan, she being so weak that she could not drive from Stiffkey to Raynham in a glass coach without fainting. *Signet.*

Viscount Conway to his cousin, Sir Edward Harley, at Brampton.

[16]68-9, February 13. Ragley—I must beg your pardon that I have kept you here to as unseasonable hours as I have been kept myself. My cousin Greville and Sir Henry Puckering have been here since Wednesday, and I have hardly slept since they came; "but confession is allowable in our religion." I am sorry to hear of the distempers you have had this last year. *Signet.*

E. H[INTON] to SIR EDWARD HARLEY, at Brampton.

[16]68[-9], March 6. London—Sir William Coventry was sent to the Tower on Thursday last for sending a challenge to the Duke of Buckingham; and one Mr Savile that carried the challenge was first sent to the Gate House and after, for honours sake, to the Tower because he was Coventry's nephew. Coventry is dispossessed of all his employments both Treasurer and Councillor, and must lie in the Tower to cool himself. It is much wondered at here how he durst attempt such a thing, the world knowing him to be a coward and a knave. My Lord General is very ill. *Signet.*

SIR R. SOUTHWELL to the MERCHANTS, formerly sequestered in Portugal.

1669, May 4. Lisbon—Giving an account of his negotiations with Francisco Fereira Rabello, Luiz Mendez de Elvas, and the Procurador de Fazenda, "the persons most likely to be relyed on by this Court" concerning moneys claimed by them from Portugal. *Copy.*

ROBERT STEPHENS to his brother[-in-law], SIR EDWARD HARLEY, at Brampton.

[16]69, June 24—Land in the country is a drug. Mr Pitt is offering an estate he has by Leominster at sixteen years purchase and a covenant it shall continue the rent.

I believe you have heard that Mr Baxter is discharged upon his *habeas corpus*, but is threatened to be imprisoned again, and they say the next time they will "hit" him.

SIR EDWARD H[ARLEY] to LADY HARLEY.

[16]69, July 20. Westminster—The Dauphin of France has been dangerously sick. The King sent Lord Buckhurst on Saturday last to visit him. The Earl of Berkshire is lately dead. I beseech God to restore little Brian to health.

JAMAICA.

1669, August 23—Narrative by Sir Thomas Modyford, governor of Jamaica, giving his reasons for granting commissions to privateers against the Spaniards. *Copy.*

CAPTAIN EDWARD FOX to SIR ROBERT HARLEY.

1669, August 26. London—The report is that the King goes next week to the New Forest and so to Dorsetshire to the "little great Lord Ashley's house."

The SAME to the SAME.

1669, August 31—The King is gone to Southampton, Portsmouth, the Isle of Wight, and the New Forest. The Queen to Hampton Court. *Signet.*

Sir Edward Harley to Lady Harley, at Brampton.

[16]69, November 9, Tothill Street—I am glad of your and the children's health. It is a great mercy, for most parts of the country as well as this city are very sickly. I hear my poor sister Dorothy has been dangerously ill. This day I have been troubled with "fumes" but I trust God will remove them. . . . . .

My brother Palmer and Sir Francis Rolles were so nearly matched in the election at Bridgewater that they had twelve on each side, and the Mayor being for Sir Francis Rolles pretends to be the casting voice. Some say my brother will question it.

The Same to the Same.

1669, November 20—Lady Westmoreland died this week. The House is much taken up in examining Sir George Carteret's accounts. Yesterday was appointed to consider the Kings supply, but nothing was done. Yesterday Lady Henrietta, the Duke of York's daughter was buried.

A. Lady H[arley] to Sir Edward Harley.

[16]69, November 21—Mr Blagrave keeps the boys very well to their books. He says that Robin has a good memory and learns apace, and doubts not that Ned will read by Christmas.

The Same to the Same.

[16]69, November 26—The boys are in good hopes of drums, or guns, or swords, when you come, as they learn their books well, and their Aunt Bromfield sent their sisters things.

Sir E. H[arley] to Lady Harley, at Brampton.

[16]69, November 30—Mrs Hinton believes herself very sad and therefore she may think of a comforter. She intends to go into your country next week.

Brilliana Davies to Lady ——.

1669, December 2. Giving particulars of her health. *Signet.*

Don Pedro Bayona y Villa Nueva, Captain General of Paraguay and Sant Iago de Cuba to Francesco Galesio.

1670, February 5. Sant Iago de Cuba—Permission to seize upon all English ships in the Indian seas. *Spanish and English. Copy.*

A. Lady H[arley] to Sir Edward Harley, at Westminster.

[16]69[-70], March 8—I hope this will find you safely arrived. I am sorry to tell you that poor Brian is fallen ill again much as he was before.

Sir E. H[arley] to Lady Harley.

[16]69[–70], March 12—The day before I came, to the grief of my soul, the Bill against Conventicles passed the House of Commons.

William Mitchell to Lady [Harley].

1669–70, [March ?] 14—Giving an account of the state of health of his wife.

Sir E. Harley to Lady Harley.

[16]69[–70], March 15—A long letter concerning the dangerous illness of their son Brian. "I desire the wolves teeth may be taken off the child's neck and returned to the Lady with thanks."

The Same to [the Same].

[16]69–70, March 19, Westminster—A letter of consolation upon the death of their son Brian aged eleven months.

A. Lady H[arley] to [Sir Edward Harley].

[16]70, March 25—I trust you will endeavour to keep a cheerful frame of spirit, which fits us for the services of God and man. I am sure if you indulge in melancholy it must be to the prejudice of your health in whose welfare my outward happiness is involved.

The death of our poor child has been a greater grief to every one than one could have imagined it. Poor nurse is so cast down that I was fain to be her comforter.

Sir Edward Harley to Lady Harley.

1670, March 26, Westminster—On Thursday Dr Manton was committed to the Gate House under the Five Mile Act.

Sir Edward Harley to Lady Harley.

1670, March 29.—Begging her not to be cast down by affliction.

The Same to the Same, at Brampton.

[16]70, April 2. Westminster—The House sate till ten o'clock last night to pass the Bill for Lord Roos's second marriage. I hear from my sister Palmer that you are very sad, which is a great trouble to me. *Signet.*

The Same to the Same.

1670, April 4, Westminster—This is sent you by one who, with the horse he brings, will give entertainment to the children. I am told the man Martin has "the vertue of a high German, to be very trusty, and

not theyr vice of drunkenes." I say nothing to Ned's request about the colt till I see how he reads. *Signet.*

The Same to the Same.

1670, April 5.—This morning I wrote to you by one I sent with a Spanish horse for a stallion.

The Same to the Same.

[16]70, April 12—I intend to start homeward on Thursday. The King, the Duke of York and most of the Court are gone to Newmarket.

The Duke of Albemarle.

1670, April 30.—"The proceeding to the funerall of George, late Duke of Albemarle from Somersett House to Westminster Abbey."

The Duke of York's troop of horse.
The King's troop of horse.
The King's regiment of foot.
The Coldstream regiment led by the Earl of Craven.
John Powell, porter, with his tipstaff.
Eight conductors with black staves.
Seventy-four poor men in gowns; two and two.
The now Duke of Albemarle's watermen.
Four drums and a fife.
The Drum Major. Three trumpets.
Mr Seager, Blue Mantle.
The Standard borne by Sir Jeremy Smith.
The first mourning horse.
Servants of Esquires, Knights bachelors of the Bath, and Baronets.
Three trumpets.
Thomas Holford, Portcullis.
The "Guydon" borne by Sir Thomas Morgan.
The second mourning horse.
Servants of the Earls of Craven, Carlisle, Bath, Cardigan, Sandwich, Peterborough, Rivers, Mulgrave, Bridgewater, Dorset, Suffolk, Huntingdon, Manchester.
Servants of the Marquis of Worcester, the Dukes of Ormond and Richmond, and the Archbishop of Canterbury.
Three trumpets.
Francis Sandford, Rouge Dragon.
The banner of "Teyes" borne by Sir Peter Killigrew.
The third mourning horse.
Servants of his Grace the defunct.
Three trumpets.
Henry Dethick, Rouge Croix.
The banner of Beauchamp borne by Sir Francis Vincent.
The fourth mourning horse.
The forty officers who attended at Somerset House.
Clerks of the Council.
Clerks of the Parliament.
Knights.
Masters of the Chancery.

The King's Sergeant.
Knights of the Bath.
Three trumpets.
Robert Challoner, Lancaster Herald.
The banner of Monk, Plantagenet, Grey, and Talbot, borne by Sir Gilbert Talbot.
The fifth mourning horse.
Sergeant Maynard.
The Judge of the Admiralty.
Sir Charles Harbord, Surveyor General.
Mr William Ashburnham, Cofferer.
Gentlemen of the Privy Chamber.
Sir Edmund Windham, Knight Marshall.
Baronets.
Privy Councillors under the degree of Barons.
Earl's younger sons.
The carpet and cushion, borne by Mr Bowman.
The Comptroller, Treasurer, Steward, and Chamberlain to the defunct.
Barons—Lords Cornwallis, Widdington, Berkeley and Audley.
Bishops—Chichester, Oxford, Landaff, Carlisle, Lincoln, Winchester.
Marquis's eldest sons—Lord St. John of Basing.
Earls—Cardigan, Rivers, Dorset, and Huntingdon.
The Preacher.
Four trumpets.
The Sergeant trumpet.
Mr Wingfield, York Herald.
The Great Banner borne by Sir James Smith.
The sixth mourning horse.
Sir Thomas St. George. Somerset. Spurs.
Thomas Lee. Chester. Gauntlet.
Henry St. George. Richmond. Helm and Crest.
Elias Ashmole. Windsor. The target.
William Dugdale. Norroy. The sword.
Sir Edward Bish. Clarenceux. The coat of arms.
Sir Edward Carteret.

Mr Treasurer of the Household. — The Lord Ashley.

Banner Rolls.	Banner Rolls.
Monk and Trenchard.	Monk and Hill.
Crakerne.	Grant.
Champernowne.	Wood.
Plantagenet.	Ashcott.
Smith.	Clarges.
Bearers of	the body.
Major Halsall.	Colonel Whitley.
Colonel Molesworth.	Colonel Markham.
Sir Thomas Player.	Mr Mason.
Bearers of	the Canopy.
Sir John Robinson.	Sir Walter Vane.
Sir Edward Butt.	Sir Charles Littleton.
Sir John Griffin.	Sir Stephen Fox.

Lord Gerard of Brandon. — Lord Newport of High Ercalt.

Sir Edward Walker, Garter Principal.
King of Arms.
Chief mourner.—The Duke of Albemarle. Supporters, the Dukes of Ormond and Richmond.
The Lord Chamberlain, the Earls of Suffolk, Bridgewater, Mulgrave, Peterborough, St. Albans, Sandwich, Bath, Carlisle, and Arlington.
The horse of honour led by Bernard Grenville, Master of the horse to the defunct.
The Queen's troop of Horse.
Draft. Incomplete.

SIR EDWARD HARLEY to his daughter, BRILLIANA HARLEY, at Brampton.

[16]70, June 14. Tothill Street, Westminster—Your letter to your mother was very welcome. We came safely here on Friday, and so did your uncle Sir Robert this evening.

You must be careful to keep the family in good order and that all come to prayers constantly night and morning, and that prayers be in seasonable time. Tell your brothers that I hope they will be careful in learning their book, praying and saying their catechism every day.

JAMAICA.

1670, June 29. Saint Iago de la Veya—Commission issued by the Governor Sir Thomas Modyford and the Council of Jamaica, appointing Admiral Henry Morgan, Admiral and Commander of all the ships of war in the harbour, for protection of the coast during the war with the Spaniards. *Copy.*

CAPTAIN MANUEL RIBEROS PARD to [ADMIRAL MORGAN,] Chief of the Squadron of Privateers in Jamaica.

1670, July 5—"I am hee who this yeare have don that which followes. I went ashore at Caymannos and burnt twenty howses and fought with Captain Ary and took from him a ketch laden with provisions and canoa. And I am hee who tooke Captain Barnes and did carry the prize to Carthagena; and now I am arrived to this coast and have burnt it and I am come to seeke Generall Morgan with two shipps of twenty gunns, and haveing seen this I crave hee would come out upon the coast to seeke mee that he might see the valour of the Spanyards. And because I had not time I did not come to the mouth of Port Royall to speake by word of mouth in the name of my King, whom God preserve."

WILLIAM HAYMAN to SIR ROBERT HARLEY, living near Ludlow.

1670, September 8. Bristol—Informing him of the arrival of his secretaire, and a chest, and two sticks of Surinam "spicklewood" from Barbados.

THOMAS DOUGHTY to SIR EDWARD HARLEY, at Brampton.

1670, September 10. Caistor—Lady Rossiter died last week and Sir Martin Lister. Scarce one of ten of the quality are left in the parts of Lindsey who were alive three years ago. *Signet.*

WILLIAM HAYMAN to SIR ROBERT HARLEY.

1670, September 17. Bristol—I have delivered your secretaire and chest of books, and the two sticks of "specelwood" to Mr. Ellis. *Signet.*

THOMAS BLOUNT to his kinsman, SIR EDWARD HARLEY.

[16]70, September 29. Orleton—I have sent your lady some fruit "though I find you famd in *Sylva* for an eminent fruit master."

A. LADY H[ARLEY] to SIR EDWARD HARLEY, in Tothill Street, Westminster.

[16]70, October 23—I bless God you got well to Worcester. I shall long for Tuesday when I hope we shall hear of your safe arrival. I never found it more hard than now to be content in your absence. As soon as you can guess let me know how long you think this session will be.

The SAME to the SAME.

[1670, October ?] 27—Robin last night waked in the night and prayed and was troubled and it was a good while before he went to sleep again. I was asking him this evening what it was that troubled him for Nan told me he prayed that God would rebuke the tempter. He said it was sin. He had heard of the sin against the Holy Ghost which was unpardonable but did not know what sin it was and was afraid to ask lest he had committed it or the devil should tempt him to commit it. The poor child with tears told me he was afraid if he died he should go to hell. He asked me whether he should think oftener of scripture at prayer, for he said then he was tempted to vain thought which he could not help.

A. LADY H[ARLEY] to SIR EDWARD HARLEY.

[16]70, November 11—I think it would be best if you got the fruit and spices in London against Christmas. We pay more here than the carriage comes to. I send up the silver spoon to be mended or changed. We want spoons exceedingly for we have only six now that go about the house. The six flat-handled ones I keep, as they would be quickly spoiled if they went commonly about. I send up the blue box with the bracelet and chain in it.

The SAME to the SAME.

[16]70, November 14—Enclosing a *sub-poena* and giving commissions for fruit and spices and "poticary things" to be bought in London.

VISCOUNT CONWAY to his cousin, SIR EDWARD HARLEY, in London.

1670, November 15. Ragley—When I was in London I lodged at my sister Clifton's in Southampton Buildings. I met Sir Robert Howard, Ned Seymour, and Sir Fretchevile Hollis in the Gallery at Whitehall and was glad to see them reconciled to one another. *Signet.*

A. Lady H[arley] to Sir Edward Harley.

1670, November 17—Mr Blagrave says Robin learns apace; Ned pretty well.

Sir Robert Harley to Captain Edward Fox, in Fetter Lane.

1670, November 22. Brampton—Concerning the redemption of his gold watch.

[Abigail, Lady Harley] to Sir Edward Harley, in Tothill Street.

[16]70, November 23—Concerning a robbery, and asking him to get from the apothecary, some rhubarb, senna, manna, tartar, "discordium," London treacle, prepared peel, treacle water and sassafras, and also a bottle of oil. *Signet.*

[The Same] to the Same.

[16]70, [November] 28—Suggesting that Robin should shortly be sent away to school.

Richard Stephens to his brother-[in-law], Sir Edward Harley.

[16]70, November 30. Chavenage—Attributing his improved health to the use of "Daucus ale."

[Abigail, Lady Harley] to Sir Edward Harley, in Tothill Street.

[16]70, November 31 (sic)—On private affairs, and asking for a present of a quire of large gilt-paper.

A. Lady H[arley] to Sir Edward Harley, in Tothill Street.

[16]70, December 5—Sending him a flitch of bacon, cheese, a little "pott with fowle, that is six teale, a ducke and a pea chick in the midel."

Sir E. H[arley] to Lady Harley.

[16]70, December 13—I hear the French King begins again to persecute the Protestants, and everywhere the Church is very low. Yesterday it was voted to raise 80000*l.* by subsidy, according to the value of all yearly revenues, profits, goods, money and offices. In debate it slipped from Sir George Downing that some of the King's money was in the hands of some Parliament members. Sir George was ordered to name them, which he did this morning; amongst others Mr Thomas Price of Hereford was charged with 2500*l.*

A. Lady H[arley] to Sir Edward Harley, in Tothill Street.

[16]70, December 29—This day has been the most "festival" we are like to have this Christmas unless you command otherwise. We had the long table full and blind Ralph to play. I think he has done little by coming into Cheshire.

Sir E. H[arley] to Lady Harley.

[16]70[-1], January 3—I forgot to tell you to entreat Mrs Hinton not to engage herself even hastily, for I may help her to a bishop that has a great value for her.

The Same to the Same.

[1671, January 8]—I am well satisfied with your Christmas. I think it never passed over here more slightly.

The Same to the Same.

[16]70[-1], January 14—Sending some London and some Venice treacle for Sir Robert. *Signet.*

The Same to the Same.

[16]70[-1], January 14—It is said the House of Lords intend to send down a Bill relating to the attempt upon the young Duke of Ormond.

The Same to the Same.

[16]70[-1], January 17. Westminster—You write to me in riddles about a marriage and a father's consent. I know not what you mean, but I understand you to mention that divers servants are likely to marry. I am glad of it. You know that it is one of my principles to be for the marriage of servants. I think that governors of families next to the marrying of their children should take care and help their servants in their marriages. *Signet.*

A. Lady H[arley] to Sir Edward Harley.

[16]70[-1], January 19—My judgment is not for the boys being kept at home, for it is not possible to keep them from associating with servants and getting a strange clownish speech and behaviour, which our boys have already, and the longer they live at home the worse it will be. Besides I think learning alone makes them have a greater aversion to their books, having nothing of emulation to spur them on. I dare say too that Ned will never be anything of a scholar if he goes not abroad. I know not for Robin, because they tell me he is apprehensive and willing, but he is sometimes extremely lazy so that I have been near whipping him. *Signet.*

Sir Edward Harley to Lady Harley.

[16]70[-1], January 21. Westminster—If you have not another I wish Brill were your bedfellow. Let me desire you that one of your maids lie in your chamber, and keep your door locked till you rise.

A. Lady Harley to Sir Edward Harley.

[16]70[-1], January 24.—Our widow is still here and her suitor. He told me that you wore a periwig when he saw you in London and that you looked very well. We had a great storm here from the west on Saturday and Sunday night which has greatly shattered the windows and blew down a great part of the palings of the park. *Signet.*

Sir E. H[arley] to Lady Harley.

[16]70[-1], February 4, Westminster—The Lords and Commons are not yet agreed concerning Sir John Coventry's Bill. The money bill is not finished. The report continues that the French assaulted a Dutch port called De Meena, or some such name, upon the Guinea coast, and are well beaten. Observe well every letter, if it be opened or not. *Signet.*

The Same to the Same.

[16]70[-1], February 7—Upon a quarrel begun at a masquerade a duel was fought between Sir Winston Churchill's son and Mr. Fenwick. Churchill is sore hurt. Yesterday there was a review in Hyde Park of all the Guards, horse, foot, cannon and pioneers, to entertain the Prince of Orange.

Sir Robert Harley to his brother, Sir Edward Harley.

1670–1, February 7—Announcing that he had made an offer of marriage to Mrs. Hinton.

A. Lady Harley to Sir Edward Harley.

[1671], February 7—Enclosing the preceding letter.

News Letter.

[1671], February 6-9—On Monday and Thursday the Guards mustered in Hyde Park; on Thursday the Duchess of York after a very ill fit was brought to bed of a daughter. On Wednesday there was a fire at the Crown Tavern in Duck Lane and at the cabinet maker's over against the New Exchange in the Strand. Three houses were burned and blown up.

Sir Edward Harley to Lady Harley.

[16]70[-1], February 11—The only thing that stays me in London is the bill of Conventicles. After a long slumber it passed the Committee two days since and I wait for the report. I know you would not have me absent at that time. I hope it will not pass the house.

You do not say how you like what I wrote to Shilton. I would have only three beds set with "licoris." If the chestnuts be in mould they cannot take harm. I have obtained some more horse chestnuts to send you. As to that business of concern so suddenly made up I can say no more than that I pray it may prove happy to both. I know you will, since it is so, show what kindness is requsite.

D. M[itchell] to her brother, Sir Edward Harley.

1670 [-1], February 11—Giving an account of her health. *Signet.*

A. Lady H[arley] to Sir Edward Harley.

[16]70[-1], February 14—The newly married couple are wondrous kind and satisfied with one another.

The Same to the Same.

[16]70[-1], February 17—Mr Billing and his wife went hence just now. I asked him to examine Robin about his book. I perceive he thinks him very backward.

Our new married folks are very fond. On my word he sets a pattern of love that neither the eldest nor the youngest brother ever yet fetched out. I hope I shall never give occasion of any unkindness to either of them or to any so nearly related to you.

Sir Edward Harley to Lady Harley.

[16]70[-1], February 18—The bill of conventicles is appointed for Monday next. Send horses for me, to be here this day week.

The Same to the Same.

[16]70[-1], February 21—I am sorry the children do not thrive in their learning, and, what is not good news to us, Mr Birch is in danger of great trouble.

A. Lady Harley to Sir Edward Harley.

[16]70[-1], February 21—I have spoken to the keepers concerning "the destroying the herns, which you said should be don this building time. They are laying."

Mr Blagrave has had an offer of a place at Oxford, so let me remind you to pitch on some place where to send Robin. If to Mr Birch's, I hope you will come that way and agree with him.

The Same to the Same.

[16]70[-1], February 23—Sir Robert has had a terrible fit of the gout but is better to-day.

Severin Odenhoff to Sir Edward Harley.

1671, February 27. Gravenhagen—Asking for a pass to enable him to raise a troop of horse in Holland. *Signet.*

A. Lady H[arley] to Sir Edward Harley.

[16]70[-1], March 3—I am sorry to hear you have had ague and gout. Robin has got an ague but is better.

Sir Edward Harley to Lady Harley.

[16]70[-1], March 4—I have sent by the carrier a little boy, his name is Thomas Harley. His father Captain Harley was of my family. After many afflictions he was struck with a dead palsy of which he died a few days since. I desire he may be put to Nan Peyto to learn his book. He is about seven years old. The Earl of Norwich died this week, also Hatton Rich. The last, it is said, cried out much for mercy.

A. Lady H[arley] to Sir Edward Harley.

[16]70[-1], March 7—Asking him to buy two small wax candles and other articles.

SIR ROBERT HARLEY to his brother, SIR EDWARD HARLEY.

1670[-1], March 7. Brampton—Thanking him in the name of his wife and himself for his cordial letter. *Signet.*

Sir E HARLEY to [LADY HARLEY].

[16]70, March 7—I am sorry Robin has caught an ague. I beseech the Lord to spare his life. I think it is not good to tamper too much with him. Forget not to send for the poor child I mentioned in my last. He must be among the servants.

The SAME to the SAME.

[16]70[-1], March 11. Westminster—The bill against Conventicles is like to be dispatched on Monday. I fear it will pass. "Sin every day grows high and impudent; as we have seen that God would not be worked by hypocrits, as certaynly He will not be defyed by profane atheists. The Lord, I trust, will graciously provide a hiding place for his poor children." Dr Sydenham would not have you give Robin any physic in his fits but posset drink with sage and the like. I think centaury boiled is good and so is horse dung posset. The Countess of Shrewsbury's young son George Villiers, and, as it is said, designed to be Earl of Coventry, died this week. I have sent you a little box with horse chestnuts. I desire they may be carefully set, but as they are dry they should be first soaked in some water and wine, or the like.

The SAME to the SAME.

[16]70[-1], March 14—Yesterday three of those that were of Sand's party were tried at the Old Bailey upon the point of robbery committed upon Sir John Coventry, but were acquitted.

ROBERT STEPHENS to his brother[-in-law], SIR EDWARD HARLEY, in Tothill Street.

[16]70[-1], March 14—I am glad the bill enabling my nieces to sell is passed, but I am afraid what will become of their money when they have it. We hear again news of a comprehensive bill and that more than one bishop thought it convenient to join forces against the papists. There have been in all parliaments great noise against them but they have yet had the good fortune not to be hurt in any great measure. I hear there is a report that the King of France intends to fall upon Ireland.

A. LADY HARLEY to SIR EDWARD HARLEY, in Tothill Street, Westminster.

[16]71, March 21—Hoping for his speedy return and reporting on Robin's ague.

The SAME to [the SAME].

[16]70[-1], March 22—Grieving over his prolonged absence and giving particulars of Robin's illness.

Sir Edward Harley to Lady Harley.

1671, March 25—Blessed be God the conventicle bill had an issue better than was expected. Most of the severe parts are left out.

Thomas Blount to Sir Edward Harley, at Brampton.

[16]71, June 1—I have acquainted Mr Dugdale with your readiness to oblige him, and of your having the ledger book of Wormley Priory which he is a suitor to borrow. If you have the *Monasticon* by you, you will see he could procure little of that priory. The seal of Fitzalan of Clun he has yet to seek. That of Earl Arundel, Lord of Chipping Norton, had it been perfect, had not been for his purpose.

The King and Queen are returned from the solemnity at Windsor, where there were seven hundred dishes at each of three meals. The ancient inscription on the Temple Church door was by order of the Benchers lately restored so as to be legible, and within a week it was again washed out.

I have met here with some very ancient deeds of Sewalus de Osasill, a name I had not beforehand.

The third *Monasticon* is finished and will ere long go to the press. *Signet.*

Lord Townshend to Sir Edward Harley, at Brampton.

[16]71, June 12. Bristol—I wish we could have seen you at Bath, but my wife found so little benefit there that we were not encouraged to stay. Being in these parts we tried the hot wells here, with which we are no better satisfied. *Signet.*

William Mitchell to Sir Edward Harley, at Brampton.

1671, June 13—Concerning his own and his wife's health. *Signet.*

Thomas Blount to Sir Edward Harley.

[16]71, June 17—I have your letter and the book. There is a report here that our Jamaicans have taken San Domingo. "Sir Edward Sprag's great service against the Algewidns is confirmed." The Lord Lieutenant of Ireland has kissed the King's hand.

Mr Rushworth's *Historical Collections* was half reprinted, by licence, but is now stayed by order of one of the secretaries.

The Same to the Same.

[16]71, July 25, Orleton—Mr Dugdale returns your manuscript with many thanks, and much condoles the loss of the first leaves of it, which he thinks did contain the charters of foundation. However he has made some use of it and his book has gone to the press. I have sent you some things concerning your ancient family which I transcribed out of Mr. Glover's excellent manuscript.

I have met with an excellent thing in London for my purpose, an ancient survey of the Duchy of Cornwall, with some words I had not before, as "nativi de stipite, nativi convencionarii, custuma de censure, Bilre, Landiok, Benarium, Averland &c. *Signet.*

ROBERT HARLEY to his father [SIR EDWARD HARLEY].

1671, August 28. Shilton—"Please to accept my most humble duty to you and my Lady mother, presented in this line from a learner. I hope through the grace of God, with your blessings and prayers, which I earnestly beg, my endeavours may in time send you fairer fruites then these first beginings." *Endorsed "First letter."*

VISCOUNT CONWAY to his cousin, SIR ROBERT HARLEY, at Brampton.

1671, September 13. Ragley—If my interest with Sir Robert Howard or Lord St. John be suitable to my inclinations and desires of serving you, I hope this which I have written will satisfy both you and me. My brother John Finch and Doctor Baines desire their service to you. *Signet.*

VISCOUNT CONWAY to his cousin, SIR EDWARD HARLEY.

1671, September 13. Ragley—I am very sorry to hear you have been so ill this summer. My mother died on the 7th of May and was buried on the 16th of June. *Signet. Mutilated.*

JOHN FISHER to SIR EDWARD HARLEY, at Brampton.

[16]71, September 27—The parliament is prorogued by proclamation from the 16th of April next to the 30th October 1672. The King and Queen are gone to Norfolk. It is said that Sir George Downing is to be sent as ambassador for Holland. *Signet.*

SIR WILLIAM STRODE to his brother-in-law, SIR EDWARD HARLEY, at Brampton.

1671, October 22. London.—Asking for any legal documents which might be in his possession relating to an estate called Chalmington. *Signet.*

SIR EDWARD HARLEY to his brother-in-law, SIR WILLIAM STRODE, in the Haymarket near Charing Cross.

1671, October 31. Brampton—An answer to the preceding letter. *Copy.*

SIR J[OHN] TREVOR to SIR EDWARD HARLEY, at Brampton.

1671, November 2. Whitehall—Concerning apprehended disturbances at Leominster, information on which subject had been given to the Lord Keeper by Sir Timothy Baldwyn. *Signet.*

SIR WILLIAM STRODE to his brother-in-law, SIR EDWARD HARLEY, at Brampton.

1671, December 6. Nuningham—On the same business as the previous letter of the 22nd of October. *Signet.*

RICHARD STRODE to his uncle, SIR EDWARD HARLEY.

[16]71, December 6. Nuningham—On the same business as the preceding letter. *Signet.*

SIR EDWARD HARLEY to LADY HARLEY.

[16]71, December 9. Wilford Court—Telling her to send the "little charet" to Shilton for the children.

DOROTHY M[ITCHELL] to her sister[in-law, ABIGAIL], LADY [HARLEY].

1671, December 12. Stiffkey—Giving an account of her own ill-health.

A. LADY H[ARLEY] to SIR EDWARD HARLEY.

[16]71, December 14—I hope on your coming back with the children you will hasten them to be going by break of day, for remember all the light nights are past. I see what my hastening has come to, that it will be almost Christmas Eve before they come. I see by the enclosed that they break not up till Tuesday, but I hope you will not stay for that. Methinks that hearing the boys exercises would not be worth two days stay. I am sure I would rather see them than hear the finest words that can be spoken. If I am a little impatient I am excusable 'being at the longest I ever thought of withe out seeing them."

[SIR EDWARD HARLEY] to his brother-in-law, SIR WILLIAM STRODE, at Nuningham.

[16]71, December 27—Concerning the documents relating to Chalmington. *Copy.*

H. WITHERS to SIR EDWARD HARLEY, at Brampton.

[16]71, December 29. Kirby Hall—Announcing the death of Lady Vere on the 25th instant. *Signet.*

——— to MRS. BROMFIELD, in Coleman Street.

1671[-2], February 26—Making her an offer of marriage.

K. BROMFIELD to SIR EDWARD HARLEY, at Brampton.

1671-2, March 12—My health is now much better than it was when my husband died. I have sent you a hamper in which are a dozen bottles of Cyprus wine which my husband thought good. To me it tastes too much of pitch. It is thought to be a very good digestive wine. My sister FitzJames and all her daughters came to town last Saturday. *Signet.*

VISCOUNT CONWAY to his cousin, SIR EDWARD HARLEY, at Brampton.

1672, March 25, Ragley—"About the middle of Aprill I shall carry two of my brother Rawdon's sonns to Cambridge who are now heere, and possibly I may returne by London, intending, God willing, to be going by May day into Ireland. But if you please to come hither in Easter weeke you will meet with very good company of my brother, John Finch, and Dr. Baines. The doctor hath been layd up of the gout heer since September last." *Signet.*

The Lords of the Council to the Marquis of Worcester, Lord-Lieutenant of the counties of Gloucester, Hereford, and Monmouth.

1672, March 26. The Court at Whitehall—Whereas many seamen and watermen have withdrawn themselves from their usual habitations into the inland counties to avoid his Majesty's service, we require you in the King's name to make diligent search through the counties of Gloucester, Hereford, and Monmouth for all unknown persons who have not been inhabiting there for the space of two months at least, and to impress such of them as are able-bodied and fit to serve his Majesty at sea, and to send them forthwith to the fleet. *Copy.*

The Marquis of Worcester to the Deputy-Lieutenants of the County of Hereford.

1672, March 28—Enclosing a copy of the preceding letter. *Signed. Signet.*

The Marquis of Worcester to Sir Edward Harley, Sir Thomas Tomkins, Thomas Whitney, and Thomas Price, Deputy-Lieutenants in the county of Hereford.

1672, April 20. Worcester House—Informing them that Mr Richard Rydley has been appointed to conduct all men imprest by them to the port of London. *Signed. Signet.*

[Sir Edward Harley, Sir Thomas Tomkins, Thomas Whitney, and Thomas Price] to the Marquis of Worcester.

1672, April 30. Hereford—Informing him that no "loose unknown" persons had been found in the county of Hereford. *Copy.*

Sir Robert Harley to his brother, Sir Edward Harley, at Brampton.

1672, July 2. Duchy Lane—I have presented your letter to Lord Clifford who asked very kindly for you and used me with friendlike respect and promised to help me. "The Hollanders drowning of their country hath hindered the further advance of the French for the present, yett it is sayd the Dutch have suffered lately very much by the French." *Signet.*

M. Lady F[itzjames] to her sister [Lady Harley].

[16]72, September 6. Essington—Thanking her and Sir Edward for kind entertainment, and announcing the deaths of Lady Nicholson, and Sir Thomas Stiles's son who married Sir Stephen Langham's daughter.

Denis de Repas to [Sir Edward Harley].

1672, September 13. London—I should be the most unthankful and unworthy man that ever did breathe on the face of the earth, if after all the kindnesses and tokens of generosity which your honour hath been pleased to bestow upon me, I should not return as many thanks as lay in my power, and pray to the Lord for your prosperity and for your most noble family, for it is certain that time shall never blot out of my

memory the fatherly Christian bounties which you ever had for me, since my blessed and providential meeting with your honour at Dunkirk. And forasmuch that I ever did find by my own experience that your honour was pleased to concern yourself in my welfare, I think myself bound to give you an account, how I did spend these last five years absence out of England. I did undergo so many fortunes and misfortunes, that scarcely a whole quire of paper would be able to contain them in writing; therefore I shall beg your honour's pardon, if I mention only the chief passages. Had your honour received a letter which I did write to you about three years ago out of Germany, I should not need to speak here, but of these last two years and a half; but your most noble brother Sir Robert hath told me that the said letters did not come into your honour's hands.

First in respect of my leaving London, I do not doubt but you know all the transactions of it, forasmuch that I did acquaint my most real and generous friend Sir Robert with every particulars, and he was pleased to help me very much in that business, for by his means I did save about 80*l.* of the shipwreck of my fortune, which was all the money I carried away out of England. I did travel all over England before leaving it, where I did observe that a man could do a considerable benefit in buying English goods at the best hand for to carry them over sea; then I went into Scotland, where I did observe the people not to be at all ingenious for any kind of manufacture, for it is certain that there is not any sort of good commodity made in Scotland. I have been there three times, once out of England and twice out of Holland, and did travel above two hundred miles beyond Edinburgh toward the north. I may assure your honour that in all my travels—whereof you shall have an account hereafter—I never saw a nation in general, more nasty, lazy, and least ingenious in matter of manufactures than they are, as by word of mouth I may in time the better relate to your honour. In several places though nature doth afford them all manner of materials to build houses, they are so lazy that they had rather lay in cabins covered hardly with earth and turfs, and so be exposed to the injury of the weather, than to take the pain to build as they do anywhere else, nay amongst the Highlanders they live like savages and go half naked. That people is so lazy that generally, except in the great towns, they do not do so much as bake bread though they may have plentiful of corn, but make nastily a kind of stuff with oat half grinded which they do call—cake—which hath no more taste or relish than a piece of wooden trencher. I was forced for two months time, in the north, in a place called Rothimay, to live altogether upon pap for want of bread. The Scotchmen and the Scotch horses live altogether upon the same diet, I mean upon oats, for there is not a horse in thirty to whom hay is afforded; their bread is made with oats and so is their bonny ale. Was I to give your honour a whole description both of their humours and of their nasty, "sloving and scabby" way of living amongst them I should have matter enough for a dozen of copious letters; and did I the like in respect of every country through which I have travelled these five years, it would be rather a volume than a letter, and so I leave all the particulars till I have the happiness to kiss your honour's hands in this town. I do speak so much of Scotland by reason that being your neighbours I do wonder that they do not take something after the English, which through all the world are counted the most ingenious in all manner of manufactures, as cloth, serge, woollen stockings, silk stockings, both woven and knitted, which I have seen transported to Naples, Messina, Palermo &c., all places whence silk is transported into England, all sort of leather, scarlet cloth, gloves, watches, knives, &c. In Scotland

there is good wool enough and plentiful, yet they do not make any sort of cloth, but send it over to Holland. They make in the north about Aberdeen great store of a kind of coarse baize which they call plaiding, from four pence to eight pence the ell; from the price your honour may judge of the goodness of the stuff. They do make also abundance of stockings in those parts; they cost but very little money, yet are they too dear, for they are "stock nought," and most nastily made. They have abundance of goat, bucks, and deer skins, but they do not take the pains to dress them as well as their hides. They do send them to Holland. I have dealt in all those sort of goods, and so I must need know the price of them. But now most honourable Sir to come to my travels. From Scotland I did sail for Holland; for the first quarter of a year I did spend it to little purpose, but only gentleman-like in viewing and observing all the country of the United Provinces, and Flanders, and Brabant; then I fell upon trading. I had observed that in Scotland good arms were very scarce, and very much desired, and in that same time there was an Act of Parliament—as I take it—by which it was lawful to import any arms into Scotland out of beyond sea, so I bought arms for all the money I had, which was about 80*l.* Now your honour will say that if I had still 80*l.* then I had not spent anything during the six or seven months' time I had left London—but you must know that at Brussels I had gotten of a Spaniard "above 50*l.* at billiards table—such a Jabb now wold come to me poudin time—which I count did bear all my charges till then. With my said arms, which were indeed very fine, did consist in fusils of all sorts of size, pistols and mousequetons, I went over to Scotland where I was much put to it to have the freedom to sell them;" but, however, after a whole month trouble, and the gift to the Provost and Bailiffs of Edinburgh—who are here called Mayor and Aldermen—of the value of 15*l.* or 16*l.*, I had the liberty to sell them, and so did I with a very considerable advantage; so that notwithstanding all my charges, I did double and above my money, if not in ready money in goods to the value. The rest of my ready money I did lay it all in Aberdeen's stockings, and so I did return to Holland, where I had them dyed, then carried them into Germany, and from place to place I sold some by gross only. "I went all along the river of Rhein, as Cologne, Coublentz, Mentz, Spire, Philisbourg, Brisuck, Strasbourg, Basell, there I sold all my rest. I had then in ready money very near 260*l.* sterling." Being but four or five days' riding from Geneva, I went there to lay my money in counterfeit stones for the most part, and in watches. I came back to Holland and Flanders, but seeing that I could not sell them all with a good advantage, I did venture to go in France at Paris, where I did swap them for all manner of gold and silver toys, ribbons and hats, which I went to sell to Brabant, Flanders, and Liege, with advantage. Then at Antwerp I did venture all my stock upon a parcel of diamonds, sold *à l'ancan* upon the Friday market. I never did shake and sweat so much as I did about that bargain, yet it did prove very advantageous, for I went immediately back to Paris where I did sell the best part of them, and the rest at Lyons and Geneva, then back again by Germany into Holland, where I did put myself wholly upon the buying of English goods only, specially serge and stockings, and so for three or four returns into Germany, I kept the fairs of Frankfort and Zurich in Switzerland. In conclusion about three years ago I was worth in ready money above 800*l.* sterling, which I did lay all out—200*l.* excepted which were to pay some arms I had bespoken—in Turkey stones, amethysts, garnets, cornaline, engraven opals, abundance of doublets, and crystal stones for rings and bracelets, seven hundred gold rings, all set with stones, some whereof were Turkey, amethyst, jacinth,

but the most part doublets and crystal, twenty gold watches, ten silver alarm, and thirty-two other watches, whereof the cases were either of crystal of rock, or paste like emerald, topaz, sapphire, amethyst, garnets, &c. or silver. I had all that stock of mine in a portmantle; I came safe as far as Mainz, from Mainz I was to come down the Rhine to Cologne, and so from Cologne to Flanders or Holland. But God in his wrath did dispose of me otherwise; my time was come to be utterly undone, for in our boats at Mainz amongst fourteen or fifteen brave merchants, there was a rogue who did pretend to be a colonel, and in very good clothes, who had followed me above eight days journey, being acquainted that I did carry goods of great value in a little compass, and so that same night about midnight, he stole my portmantle and by consequent all what I was worth. It was the fourteenth of September 1669, new style, the night of the Saturday to Monday, at a place called Niderheinsback, three miles higher than Baccarach, which last town doth belong to the Elector Palatine. I do beg your honour's pardon if I do not send here all the particulars, for the only thoughts of it do make me distracted, to see that all I had gotten with so much labour, pains, and industry, was lost in a moment. However, when I do reflect on the passages which did happen immediately after my said last, I cannot but thank the Lord, but no more of that &c., only I may assure your honour, that had not that misfortune happened to me I should be now naturalized in England and have a great traffic, for I was resolved to traffic only in English goods, and do know the nature of them and where to dispose of them, and I had so good correspondence among the Switzers and in Germany that the gain was evident, and a bargain made with several of them to deliver them such sort of goods, at such rate &c. All the inquiry possible was made about the thieves, but all in vain; three or four months after I did hear he was at Strasbourg. I did ride post thither with great expenses, but three weeks before I came he had killed a man, and so was fled away. I saw several pieces of my goods at the goldsmiths and watchmakers, &c. The mentioning of this great loss do put me so much out of humour that I do hardly know what I do write, and how to send your honour an account how I do spend these last three years, it would be too tedious to your honour, and I cannot have the patience to set it in writing, by reason that there is so many several other fortunes and misfortunes. Only your honour shall know that by God's providence I had left at Liege 50*l.* for some arms which I had bespoken, so that after that great loss of mine I had nothing else left in the world but those 50*l.*, and yet were they not in my own hands, so that I came to Liege for that money, but as soon as I was there I was arrested prisoner to pay about three hundred and fifty pounds for the arms which I had bespoken and given earnest for, and they were all made ready according to my directions. I was kept nine or ten days in prison, as if my loss was not grief enough to me, but the truth of it, for being over-afflicted I was not sensible of anything. The nine or ten days of my prison being expired they had notice how I had been robbed, I was released by paying about 16*l.* of damage to the poorest workmen, and for the rest they did bear their damage patiently, nay some of them did trust me with some of their goods, which I did swap in Holland for some Scotch goods. For conclusion and brevity sake your honour is to know that for these last three years I was, *motus perpetuus*, through France, Flanders, the United Provinces, Germany, Switzerland, Savoy, Piedmont, all Italy round and in the heart of it, as Milan, then Vincenza, Verona, Padua Venetia, Bologna, Florence, Siena, Rome, Naples, "Pouzlia", Calabria, then Sicily, Messina, Palermo &c. A misfortune which did happen to

me about fifteen or sixteen months ago in France at a town called Amiens did occasion me to travel over the Alps to prove if my fortune would be better there than in these parts, but *idem per idem*, that same misfortune which did happen to me at Amiens was unadvisedly caused by my brother's fault, who had told to his partner at Rouen that I had been in a cloister. I coming to Amiens out of Flanders with the value of above hundred pounds in laces and some other things, for which goods I did not intend to pay the custom, being all hidden under my clothes; half a mile from the town I was seized upon by six or seven waiters, as I was looking for a place fit to go round about the town, and so avoid the custom house, which is at the door, but there is a little river which did hinder my designs. They took me upon the river side looking for a boat or bridge to go over, but I was not gone nor in the way of going over the river. I do explain all these particulars to your honour that you might know how my brother was the cause of the loss of all my goods. Your honour is to observe that by the law there is no forfeit of any sort of goods till they be passed over the river, these six or seven land waiters or rather land devils, did search me everywhere, and took all from me as much as about 20*l*. in money I had, and did handle me and abuse me in words most basely. They carried me to the custom house to the surveyors, who did deal with me like men. I did complain of the ill words those rogues had given me, they were checked very much, but that did not satisfy me; however the surveyors kept all my goods saying they durst not return them to me, till they had order of the head master of the custom house, yet they did return me my money. They did write to Paris to the head masters about the business, and as I was advised to make some friend to the said masters, I did write to my brother at Rouen about it, to get an order of Mr. Colbert to have my goods released. I knew he was welcome to the said Mr. Colbert, but I did not know that he had left France upon a sudden as he did England, but upon good account as Sir Robert doth know. However, most honoured sir, four or five days after I had written to Rouen, my brother's partner, who was a doctor of physic, came to me at Amiens. I was glad to see him. I asked him about my brother, but in a sourly manner he told me that I knew better than he did where he was, and he did know whom I was and what I had been, and if I was a Huguenot. I told him I did profess the religion of those Christians he did call Huguenot. The master of the house the mistress and her two daughters were present at our discourse; he told them to send for an officer to apprehend me. The truth sir I was not at all daunted, to the contrary, I did rejoice to be, it may be, freed from all the care of this present troublesome world, being resolved to provoke them enough to put me to death, but my time was not come yet, and the Lord did preserve both my life and freedom for some other occasion. The officers being come, one of them being a discreet man, hearing my reasons, said there was no reason to apprehend me, but only the people amongst whom I had been might claim a right upon me, so they departed. But two father Jesuits or rather Devillists, were sent for, who gave order I should be kept in a chamber till they had written to Paris. I do confess that I did speak something too haughty to these fathers, considering the condition I was in; but however, sir, that same night about eleven of the clock, the "harseler" of the inn got me out through a window, and so I was freed from the house but not out of the town, by reason that all the gates were shut up. That night was none of the quietest I had in my life, for I did spend it upon the town's wall in an old tower inhabited, all in fears to be apprehended at my going out of the town; but yet as soon as the gates were open I got out and went to Paris

where I had sent some Zolinde blades for swords. I sold them all to one man for about 200*l.*, so your honour is sensible how by my brother's fault only I did lose all those goods at Amiens, for durst not appear there any more; and before that that fellow came to Amiens the restoration of my goods was proposed unto me by paying 15*l.*, which I would not do &c. I did resolve after that loss to go to Italy. I bought several French goods and so went to Lyons, to Savoy, and so to Turin, where I did sell several things, and so through all Italy; from Rome I went to Naples with some rest of goods, by sea, and had I come back the same way I should be now a gentleman, or may be a slave in Turkey. I went to Naples as much out of curiosity to see the country as out of a desire of lucre, for certainly the greatest wonders of nature which ever I saw I have seen them there. I sold the rest of my things at Naples, which did consist in Turkey stones, vermeilles or beryls, amethyst, and some few other stones. I went to Sicily, to Messina, to buy some silk, and to Palermo. I did send all to Naples and as I was at Naples I did lay a part of my money, which I had kept for that purpose, in waistcoats of Naples made with silk, gold, and silver, and very cheap. Instead of coming back to Rome by sea I was advised to go by land, for fear of the Turkish pirates, but by land every one did know it to be very dangerous for the banditti, and so we did find it true. I did wait a fortnight for a good and great company, and it was that which did undo me, for had I been alone or with two or three I verily believe I had not been robbed, for those bandits will not come down the rocks, but upon great booties. I went out of Naples with six mules all richly loaden, whereof I had the best part of the loading of one. We were fourteen or fifteen in company, and beside when we did pass by some place suspected we had nine or ten sbirs to convoy us, but all in vain, for about threescore miles from Rome, we were set upon by above sixty banditti, all well armed, two or three of our company were killed, all we stripped naked, and our clothes put on the mules, and the mules all loaden driven by the banditti to their quarters Being so left naked by those banditti, I went on my journey towards the first town I could meet, with another who was a Venetian merchant. We went about six miles without a town or village; at last we came to a little village, to get some relief by begging, but by good fortune we met a priest to whom I did speak Latin, and did make him understand our misfortune. The priest was so proud that I did speak to him in Latin before five or six of his parishioners, that he brought us to his house and gave us some of his best diet, which doth consist in "cavoli, broccoli, fenuchi, and shellery," which are but roots and cabbages in this land. We laid there all night, and the next day the parishioners and he gave us about five shillings, with which we went to Rome. Now you must observe that at Rome by good chance I had left a good suit of clothes, for fear it should be robbed from me upon the way, and for the value of 10*l.* or 12*l.* of ribbon in commission to a friend to sell it for me. With that 10*l.* it was not possible rise again, had it been treble I do not doubt but I had come up once more, so that I was forced to look all the world over which part I should draw to for a refuge. I did resolve to go to the East or West Indies, and so I went to Leghorn, to see if I could find a ship for that purpose, but in vain. I went to Genoa upon the same intent, but no occasion to be found. Thence I went to Marseilles in France all along the sea coast, but nothing to be heard of, then to Bordeaux, then to Rochelle, where I did resolve to go in the French fleet as the scrivener of a ship. But I come too late at Rochefort whence the French fleet was departed. I went to Low Brittany, by Nantes to Brest where are the biggest sort of French ships, to get a place. The Lord Superintendent of the country did make me welcome,

after I had presented him a petition to get a scrivener's place, and that I could speak French, English, Latin, Italian, Dutch, and German in part. He could speak Italian and so was well pleased with me, but all the ships were gone out. He told me that if I could stay there two months he would grant me my desires. He did bear all my charges at my inn, and did complain that I did [not] spend enough. For the most part I did sup with him. A fortnight after I had been there, he did receive an order of the great Colbert to ride post to Paris; before he went he presented me with three French guineas and a silver sword, which I sold for three pounds sterling. I did stay there a week longer, then it was told that he should not come there no more, and that he should be sent to Toulon, and so while I had some little money I thought best to look for my fortune somewhere else, so I did resolve to come for England, though much against my will to come back so bare, yet I did wholly fix upon that resolution a part in hope to find my brother here, and then that I could perhaps find some friend here. So I came to St. Malo to look for a ship for England, but there was none. I was advised to embark myself for Jersey which I did willingly, for I was glad to see that corner of the world. From Jersey I went to Guernsey by Jersey ship and so in England where I pray God to bless me.

I beg your honour's pardon for all the faults of bad English of this letter, no using the said English tongue for these five years, doth put me out now and then, but within these two or three months I do not doubt but to have it mended. I could not set down here all the particularities of my travels, for fear to be too tedious, especially and above all things about all the observations I have made of the Romanish idolatry, for indeed I did [consider] that one of the chief heads of my going in Italy. At Florence I was three days in prison about a word spoken unadvisedly concerning one of the greatest devotion of Tuscany, it is a picture of the Annunciation of the Angel to the Virgin Mary. They hold as an article of faith, nay *volens nolens*, one must hold it and swear it to be true, that a painter being about the design of drawing the Annunciation, he drew first the figure of the angel, to whom he made so handsome a face that he had spent all the skill of his art about it, and so when he came to draw the figure of the Virgin Mary, he could not make her a face so handsome as that of the Angel. However, he drew all the body, so that there did remain to draw but the face; he being upon the study and contrivance how he should draw her a face handsomer than that of the angel, he fell asleep, and in that same time, the Holy Ghost who being husband to the Virgin Mary, took the pencil out of the painter's hand, and did draw the face of the said Blessed Virgin; this they say. The Church wherein is that idolatrous picture is one of the richest of all Italy, both for the building, jewels, gold, and silver, presented to the said picture; there is above threescore silver large lamps burning day and night before the said picture, and four white wax candles &c. I got out of prison by the means of an English lady who doth wait upon the Duchess, called Madame Wells. There is three English ladies waiting upon her. I went to see *La sancta Casa de Loretto*, which was above three hundred miles out of my way, but I do not repent to have seen that foppery, for certainly it is worth seeing. I could write a whole quire of paper about it, in short, most honourable sir, I have—according to the Papist belief—seen all what did belong to Our Saviour, as His house, which was transported whole from Galilee to Italy, his porringer, dish, table, gown, nay his very blood, and the water that issued out of his side, his hair, &c., and all that, but things invented by the devil to get money, and I do admire the more and more how common people

amongst the Papists do not perceive the great cheat of the priests. I must confess to your honour, that though I have been brought up amongst the papists, yet I did not know all their absurdities, for unless a man should go to the Court of Rome and observe them, he cannot learn them elsewhere, and I may assure your honour, that the best way for this nation to abolish here popery, is to have an Act of Parliament made by which all papists both men and women should be bound to go to Rome and stay there one quarter of a year only, I am confident and would lay twenty to one that at their return, they would be either good Protestants or Atheists.

Sir William Strode to his brother[in-law] Sir Edward Harley.

1672, September 18. Nuningham—Informing him that he intended to have a trial with Lady Strode in November for Chalmington.

Paul Foley to Sir Edward Harley, at Brampton.

1672, September 21. Stoke-Edith—Begging to be excused if he should be absent from the next sessions at Hereford. *Signet.*

The Lord Lieutenant and Council of Ireland.

1672, October 21. The Council Chamber in Dublin—Order for the enrollment and publication of the King's letter of the 28th September 1672 declaring his intention of passing an act of pardon, indemnity, and oblivion, to all Irish subjects concerned in the late rebellion. *Copy.*

Sir Edward H[arley] to his brother[-in-law], Sir William Strode, at the Dog Tavern, Westminster.

1672, October 21. Brampton—An answer to his letter of the 18th September. *Copy.*

William Mitchell to Lady [Harley].

1672, December 21. Stiffkey—Announcing his wife's safe delivery of another son.

Sheriffs.

1672.—A list of Sheriffs for the year 1672.

A. Lady Harley, to Sir Edward Harley in Tothill Street, Westminster.

1672[-3], January 31—Lamenting his departure, and asking him to send down two hundred "lecoris plants, three ounces of best Dutch asparagus seed, half an ounce of coleflour seed, and half an ounce of swet marjorum."

The Same to the Same.

[16]72[-3], February 4—I hope you will let us know the particulars of your journey and how the children do. The hops are sold at 6*s.* 6*d.* a hundred, which I was persuaded was as good a rate as they were like to be at.

Sir Edward Harley to Lady Harley, at Brampton.

[16]72[-3], February 4—I can send you a good account of myself and our children at Shilton. This day the Parliament was convened. The King did not speak; the Lord Chancellor shortly, only to recommend to the choice of a Speaker, which proved to be Sir Job Charlton. The Marquis of Blanquefort who commands the Duke's troop, took his place in the House of Peers as an English Baron. *Signet.*

Sir E. Harley to Lady Harley.

[16]72[-3], February 8—The Lord Chancellor received me with his wonted friendship.

Peregrine Palmer to his sister [in-law], Lady Harley.

1672[-3], February 8—Announcing the marriage of his daughter "Billy" to Sir John Wroth.

Sir E. Harley to Lady Harley.

[16]72[-3], February 11—The debate of the House yesterday "ran with terms of favor to the Nonconformists but more smart upon the Papists." The armies of the Elector of Brandenburgh and Turenne are said to be very near and likely to engage.

Sir E. Harley to Lady Harley.

[16]72[-3], February 18—A sad loss at sea. Fifteen Malaga ships taken by the Dutch .

The Same to the Same.

[16]72[-3], February 22—I write this from the Committee Chamber so I cannot say what I would. Monday is appointed for the matter of religion. Send me my coloured knit silk stockings.

The Same to the Same.

1672[-3], February 25—"'Tis your wedding day. Hold up your head for my sake." Sir Harry Fitzjames is to go as one of the lieutenants to Blanquefort, Lord Duras, commander of a hundred and fifty horse drawn out of the guard. In their passage to France near forty horses were lost.

A. Lady Harley to [Sir Edward Harley].

[16]72[-3], February 25—I hope you will send down the plants and "poticarys" this week. Pray add two ounces of spirit of castor, and some of last year's borage seed to sow. I had but little "diapente" from Ludlow for sixpence. "You forget this day, so do not I but bles God for his goodnes to me."

Doctor Thomas Barlow to [Sir Edward Harley?].

1672[-3], February 26. Q[ueen's] College, Oxford—Thanking the House of Commons for their zeal on behalf of the Protestant religion.

Sir E. H[arley] to [Lady Harley].

[16]72[-3], March 8—"I had much adoe to write to you a few lines by the last post. This week hath been ful of expectation in many respects, many feares least lords and commons shold differ, and that end in a breach or dissolution. Yesterday the lords concurr'd with the commons in theyr address to his Majestie, against the growth of popery. In the afternoon, it was presented. The King's answer was gracious, but having some reserv for the regiments which are sayd to be raysed for forrein service, the hous was not so wel satisfied. But this morning, the Black Rod called the Hous to attend the King in the Upper Hous, where the King sayd he would caus the desires expressed in the address to be executed. He pressed the urgency of afaires which required the hastning the supply of money, the Dutch giving out they intend an extraordinary fleet this summer. He desired therefor the jelousies of some might not hazard the safety of all, and he faithfully promised to pass all bills they shal present to take away just grievances, and if any caus of complaint had been, it should not be drawn into future consequence. Upon the report of this to the hous, Secretary Coventry allso acquainted the hous that he saw the declaration for Indulgence vacated and the great seal taken from it. The Hous immediatly voted thanks for his Majestie's gracious and satisfactory answer. Accordingly this afternoon, both Houses with theyr speakers presented theyr humble thanks to the King in the banquetting hous. The King received them graciously and sayd that by his goodwill there should not be future caus of misunderstanding. The bil of money is allmost dispatched; 'tis likely all the papists wil be immediatly put out of comand. The bil to disable papists to bear any office is going on, and Munday is appointed for the debate of the Bil of Eas to protestant dissenters."

"I would desire if you buy some hayr of the colour that may serve for a periwig for mee, it should curle but the hayr not be very long."

The Same to the Same.

[16]72[-3], March 11—Saturday last a Spanish friar came into the Palace Yard and a porter with him carrying faggots and shavings, and in a bag his popish habits. The Friar went into a house, put them on, came out, spake words of detestation against popery, pulled off his habit and burned them and his beads in the fire. This was seen by many Parliament men. My brother, Sir Robert's money given him by the King is likely to be well paid and settled.

The Same to the Same.

[16]72[-3], March 15—Sending her seeds, drugs, "licorish" plants, and some claret.

Sir R. H[arley] to Sir Edward Harley.

1672-3, March 20. Walford—Giving a bad account of his health. *Signet.*

Sir E. H[arley] to Lady Harley.

[16]72[-3], March 22—You will be pleased to hear that the King on Thursday last sent a message to both Houses to hasten all necessary bills because he intended a recess on Thursday next. The bill of ease for dissenters is sent up to the Lords. The bill against popery has passed

the Lords with several provisoes and amendments, to the most material of which the Commons do not agree, particularly those provisoes which, except the servants of the Queen and the Duke of York from taking those oaths and tests imposed upon all the King's servants, and all officers whatsoever, civil or military. The Houses now sit both before and after noon. *Signet.*

The Same to the Same.

[16]73, March 29—The Parliament is adjourned till October 20. The bill of the eighteen months tax and that against popery is passed, but the Bill for dissenters is not passed.

Margaret, Lady Fitzjames, to her sister, Lady Harley.

[16]73, April 7. Leverton—Giving a report of her own and her sister Bromfield's health and of her brother and sister Palmer. *Signet.*

Sir Edward Harley to Lady Harley.

[16]73, April 8—I am likely to come to a full agreement with the Earl of Craven, which will be a great mercy. I am likewise in hopes to receive Sir Robert's money.

E. Cholmeley to Lady Harley.

[16]73, April 12—I will send you your "stayes" and a "manto" shortly. Lord Oxford has acknowledged his marriage with "Dye Kirk." Lord Winchilsea was married last Thursday to Lady Wentworth, a pretty young woman of twenty-three. Lady Diana Verney will not have Lord Alington. Some think she will marry Lord Buckhurst. Aunt Twisden came to town last night.

Sir Edward Harley to Lady Harley.

[16]73, April 15. Westminster—I hope to get out of town tomorrow. I would that my brother Thomas would meet me at Hereford on the 23rd when by the Act is appointed to be the first general meeting for the Commissioners for the tax. If he will look in the press in my study which is divided into cells for writings, he will find papers which express the distribution of the royal aid upon the several hundreds.

Sir Edward Harley.

1673, April 16—Certificate by Richard Kidder, minister of God's word, that Sir Edward Harley did upon Easter Day 1673, in the parish church of Great Saint Helen's in London "immediately after divine service and sermon, receive the sacrament of the Lord's Supper according to the usage of the Church of England."

The Same.

Same date—Certificate by Richard Kidder that he administered the sacrament to Sir Edward Harley on Easter Day.

E. Cholmeley to Lady Harley.

[16]73 [April]—I write to acquaint you that I cannot get your stays ready by May day as I had intended, as all the tailors are so full.

The King is gone to Sheerness and afterwards to Portsmouth. The Dutch are in an ill condition and desire a cessation of arms, which the French King will not grant, who designs, as some think, to besiege Brussels. The match is quite off with the Princess of Innsbruck. They talk of the Duchess of Guise as well as of others. Sir William Portman is to marry Lady Margaret Russell, the Lord Bedford's daughter, and next week is to be received in public, which is thought hardly decent as his wife is so lately dead. Some say Lord Mulgrave shall have Lord Lindsay's daughter by his first wife. The Duke of Somerset is dead but how he has left his estate is not certainly known. I hear it is charged with a great debt and given after to Lord Seymour who is Duke next. There is much robbing of houses in town, and at Sir Robert Long's in Westminster a servant was killed. Pray tell Sir Edward that I now want him to go to the new play, "for the Italian comedian Scarramouch is come, which are things I know hee delights in not a little."

Sir Edward Harley to Abigail, Lady Harley.

[16]73, April 23. Chavenage—Giving particulars of the illness of their son Ned, at Shilton.

Sir Edward Harley to Lord [Town]shend.

1673, May 3—Introducing Sir Herbert Croft, the only son of the Bishop of Hereford.

Andrew Marvel to Sir Edward Harley, at Brampton.

1673, May 3. London—"I was to wait on you several times after we rose but missed you till I took a sudden journey to Stanton Harcourt. And there I understood not that you were at the same time so many days in the neighbourhood till you were gone home. So that all I can do for myself is to retrieve the loss of those opportunities by writing. I find here at my return a new book against the *Rehearsall* intitled: *St to him Bayes:* writ by one Hodges. But it is like the rest only something more trivial. *Gregory Gray-beard* is not yet out. *Dr. Parker* will be out the next week. I have seen of it already three hundred and thirty pages, and it will be much more. I perceive by what I have read that it is the rudest book, one or other, that ever was published—I may say since the first invention of printing. Although it handles me so roughly yet I am not at all amated by it. But I must desire the advice of some few friends to tell me whether it will be proper for me, and in what way, to answer it. However I will for mine own private satisfaction forthwith draw up an answer that shall have as much of spirit and solidity in it as my ability will afford and the age we live in will endure. I am—if I may say it with reverence—drawn in, I hope by a good Providence, to intermeddle in a noble and high argument, which therefore by how much it is above my capacity, I shall use the more industry not to disparage it. But I desire that all the discourse of my friends may run as if no answer ought to be expected to so scurrilous a book. Sir, I would entreat you to put the learned Scotch gentleman near you in mind of drawing up a succinct full narrative of what he remembers concerning the man we

spake of in Ireland. I intend by the end of the next week to betake myself some five miles off to enjoy the spring and my privacy. If you please to favour me with any letter, I pray—till you find that the posts are clear—inclose it under a cover to Mr. Richard Thompson at the sign of the Golden Cock in Wooll Church Market, London. Our fleet was fallen down in order to have sailed toward Portsmouth to take up the rest there and to meet with the French when they should come, but the news is certain to-day at Whitehall that the Holland fleet is off Albrough, and it is reported they are seventy sail."

The Earl of Clare to Sir Edward Harley, at Brampton.

1673, May 19. Houghton—I intended in London to have spoken to you about a "river man," for in your country I hear they are well versed, not only in draining bogs, but in cutting rivers, canals, and making fish ponds.

I hear you have a design for the "Spaw" so I hope you will take me in your way. *Signet.*

T. J. ——— to Sir Edward Harley, at Brampton.

1673, May 31—"This morning news is come from Prince Rupert himself of a sore sea fight between him and du Ruter Wednisday last ner the Wielings, wher the Dutch lay. Who perceaving the Prince's designe to force them, prevented him and accepted the provocation, it seems, having there station and bidding him battell about four or five leagues off; and that it seems—before there fleet was come together. Fyv captains with some lieutenant colonels we have an account of kill'd. Two shipps come in to Harwich shattered—they say;—one Frenchman sunk—who all fought well—but who or whether [any] taken or sunk or slain on the enemies no certain account that I know, come. But [ ] having—as it seems—enough on both sides that night, the Dutch are since—we heare—r[etired] to their station again, though they seeme to play bo-peep with us and retreat or retire, fall off, or fall on with us, at there pleasure. Yet the Prince will endeavor his best to quell there confidence and courage so as to giv us a better account ere long. Some say we have sunk of theirs, one of fifty guns. Most here give Du Ruter right, magnifieng the man's gallantrie and conduct with admiration of his, as the greatest feat that ever he performed all circumstances considered, so as if he should be brought over prisoner at next bout he would be civiller treated I am confident. He drew out—it seems—about ten o'clock morning, engaged us about twelve, continuing till ten at night. Sir Robert Morray desired to be remembered to you. Mr. Clogie hath been here with me." *Signet.*

The Marquis of Worcester to Sir Edward Harley, and the rest of the deputy lieutenants for Herefordshire.

1673, May 31. Worcester House— Directing them to call out the trained bands for exercise. *Signed. Signet.*

Margaret, Lady Fitzjames, to her sister, Lady Harley, at Brampton.

1673, June 3. Leverton—My brother and sister Palmer and Sir John Wroth and his lady and the two Stanleys have been here. Sir

John went off in three or four days to London without acquainting his wife or anyone, but came back yesterday and they went to Fairfield to day. I hope it may prove a happy match, but he is of so few words and reserved that I never saw one I could so little tell what to think of. She loves him entirely and when he went away so strangely she carried herself with a great deal of discretion, above her age.

My children are in no heart to marry; and I believe if they do not marry till they can have religious men they never will, and I think they will not be in the worse condition if they never do, unless men were better and matches prove better than they do as the world goes now. *Signet.*

D. Mitchell to her brother, Sir Edward Harley, at Brampton.

1673, June 7. Raynham—On private affairs. *Signet.*

Robert Blayney to Sir Edward Harley at Brampton.

1673, June 12—Enclosing, by direction of "Mr. Harley" a letter from the Lord Chancellor. *Signet.*

Sir Edward Harley to Lady Harley, at Brampton.

1673, July 17. Hereford—I purpose to be at Walford to-night, at Essington to-morrow. Ross fair is on Monday next. Bid John Lowke kill a buck for the sheriff and another for the Judges. Robin and Ned went from Walford yesterday morning at five o'clock. *Signet.*

Lord Townshend to his kinsman, Sir Edward Harley, at Brampton.

1673, July 21. Raynham—Thanking him for his letter of the 3rd of June last condoling with him on the loss of his [wife]. *Signet.*

Edward Cooke to Sir Robert Harley, at Walford.

1673, July 31. The Wilderness—Regretting that he could not wait upon him so soon as he would like. *Signet.*

Margaret, Lady Fitzjames, to her sister [Lady Harley].

1673, August 1. Fairfield—My sister is now in ease and as cheerful as it can be expected. The wound in her breast is narrower than it was, but very deep, to the very bone. The doctor fears it is incurable. She had been for four days before I came in extreme pain which was caused by Sir John Wroth's tricks, exciting his horse into a fury; but I expect he will use his tricks so often that they will be too common to be much regarded. The day after I came he went to Park and appointed to come home in three days, but two days after sent his wife a letter that he was gone to London, so that no one knows when he will return. I wish my sister would not lay it so much to heart.

The doctor says my sister may live some years, but if the "humor should come to be sharpe as it was once before" I fear her time will not be long. The doctor speaks of ten years. I am sure she will be "dearely" missed by all her friends.

ANN PALMER to her sister, LADY HARLEY.

[16]73, August 2—"I have a great deall to say if I were with you but cant in a leter. My breast is broke as I beleve you have heard, and it eats away more and more, soe as the docter tells me plainly that there is noe cure but by manuall operation, and that is soe daingerous and painfull, as I thinck not to submit to it, for he saith the cancer is fixt, and, as he thinckes, the rib is fouled. Though it was the first as I heard speak of it yet to mee it was not strainge, because I thought it was soe afore." There are waters in this country which have cured a cancer in a woman's breast but it is not like mine; but being now in a desperate condition I am willing to try it as it is approved by the doctor to allay pain and keep the "melencolly humor" low. I was for a fortnight in great pain but now I am at ease. *Signet.*

THOMAS BLOUNT to SIR EDWARD HARLEY, at Brampton.

[16]73, August 6. Orleton—"I have sent you the promised *Monastickon* with my humble service. We were put in hope of Mr Marvel's reply, but it appear'd not whilst I stay'd in London. At Oxford I was shew'd a hundred and fifty three manuscripts all of Mr Dodsworth's collection, and given by the late Lord Fairfax.

Besides that of Amicia another controversy is risen between the two Chesshire knights. Whether in a charter with *his testibus, domino Johanne Style &c*, if *domino* did always signify a knight or a clergyman, or was attributed indifferently both to knights and gentlemen of quality. I should be glad at your leasure to know your opinion, for the learned are divided in it."

K. BROMFIELD to her sister [LADY HARLEY].

1673, August 15—My sister Palmer's condition is sad and I expect her mind is sadder, what with her own illness and the troubles of her family. "I beseech God to bless the waters to her that she is now going to drinck, but if she should be resolved of cuting it ofe, I know it must be don in London and sure I shall desier to be with her at such a time." *Signet.*

E. BEALE to [LADY HARLEY].

1673, September 3—There is no news exept that they are "new modlising" the fleet. It is thought we have too many men and too few ships. It is left to the ordinary of the Lord Privy Seal. The Prince laid down his commission and has taken it up again, yet it is not known whether he shall go to sea or no. The King and Duke and Prince went yesterday to see the fleet. There is some fear concerning our fleet at "Kingsaile" where are the nine East India ships of our own and three of the Dutch.

The French King has sent forth a manifesto that if the Emperor will not march on from "Egra" he will withdraw from the empire, but if he does come on then he declares war. The Dutch were never so high as now, or so set upon revenge against England.

LORD HOLLES to SIR EDWARD HARLEY.

[16]73, October 7. Peper Harow—For the business you wrote about no good was to be done, for we had only "the Jesuits legacy to bestow, good words that signified nothing, of which we were very liberall." *Signet.*

ANN PALMER to her sister [LADY HARLEY].

[17]73, October 14. [London]—I did endure the journey to town much better than I expected though we had many troubles. Next week a hackney coach goes down to help my sister Fitzjames and her daughters to town. I should be glad to see you and sister Bromfield along with Sir Edward, for I believe he will be in town ere long. I know little of town news but all the talk is of the new Duchess that is coming over. They say she is but fourteen years old. The King has had a fit of apoplexy which makes us all fear what may come if he should die.

SIR EDWARD HARLEY to [LADY HARLEY].

[1673], October 28. Uxbridge—I need not tell you that yesterday week upon the meeting of Parliament they were prorogued until yesterday, but before they parted they voted against the match with the Princess of Modena or any other papist.

1673, October 29. Westminster—I have come safely to day to Mrs Bolton's house in Stephen's Alley in King Street. I do not know how I shall like my lodgings. My company is like to be good. Sir Edward Massie and Mr John Griffiths.

The SAME to the SAME.

1673, November 1. Westminster—It is said the Duke intends to go to Dover to meet the Princess of Modena, who is expected there Tuesday next. His guards marched that way yesterday. There is a bill ordered to disable the Popish Lords and all other papists from sitting in either House of Parliament.

Yesterday I saw my brother Thomas who is settled at Islington. While I write a great fire has broken out in Southwark.

[The SAME] to the SAME.

[16]75, November 4. Westminster—Yesterday the House voted the standing army to be a grievance and appointed a committee to prepare an address to the King for their disbanding. In the afternoon the House attended the King with their address to hinder the marriage with the Princess of Modena. The King said it was a matter he would take into consideration and give them a speedy answer. This morning the King sent for the House to attend him in the Lord's house. In a short speech he told them that to prevent misunderstandings between him and the Parliament, from which their enemies expected more than from their arms, he intended a short recess, wishing them to come with minds to settle religion and to oppose the enemies who are our only competitors at sea. In the meantime he would take care to suppress popery, wishing them to do their duty therein in their several counties. Also that he would do some other things grateful. Accordingly the Parliament was prorogued to January 7th next. *Signet.*

The SAME to the SAME.

[16]73, November 8. Westminster—Sister FitzJames and sister Palmer met this afternoon at the Temple, all well. Sister Mitchell has come to town to Lord Townshend's house, sent for by his Lordship who is supposed to be near marrying a daughter of Sir Joseph Ashe. My brother Thomas has bargained with Mr Blayney for Kinsham for 1,300*l.* and 20*l.* for the lady.

The Same to the Same.

[16]73, November 11. Westminster—Yesterday I was suddenly taken with a fit of the gout in my right ancle, but to-day I have been pretty well. Last Lord's day the great seal was taken from the Earl of Shaftesbury, and Sir Henry Finch made Lord Keeper; Sir Francis North, Attorney, and Sir Francis Winnington, Solicitor General. Other alterations spoken of but not yet effected.

[T J.——] to Sir Edward Harley, at Brampton.

[1673], November 22—"Though we expect to see you shortly here at the time appointed, and have but little to write in the interim, yet I would not altogether be wanting to your expectation and my own promise to let you know our friends are well—blessed be God—as you left them, and our affaires continue much in the same posture at home and abroad. I need not trouble you with printed proclamatio[ns] for suppressing of poperie, enjoyning all judges, justices, mayors, &c. to inquire and proceed against them and prohibiting accesse to his Majestie's person or court—without exception of any one, high or low, male or female." We have news "come that so many of the Scotts regiment here as were going over and gott on shipboard from Rye are all taken by the Dutch. The rest remains behind,—some say running away home and but few or none left. There hath been some dispute about answering the King's letter in the parliament of Scotland, Duke Hammilton begining and most lords and commons concurring to have some grievances—not named there and here—inserted and sent up. Whereupon, some concern'd in some monopolies, have since yielded up their grants, and thought 'twill end that way. They were adjourned from Wednesday the 12 to Monday last; what then was concluded we have not yet received intelligence. Monseur Ruven a great patron of the Hugonits—retained this sixteen years at court in France as their representee—is now come over ambassador hither and the other to return home. The Duke of Yorke hath been since Thursday last waiting at Dover to receave his new Dutchess, but yet we doe not heare she is landed. I have gott Mr. Lyde settled with a goldsmith in Lumbard Street—at least upon tryall—Mr. Lindsey." *Signet.*

D. M[itchell] to her brother, Sir Edward Harley, at Brampton.

1673, December 1—Your own trouble will make you sensible of the affliction I am in, I pray god sanctify it to us all. My Lord Townshend was married last Thursday the 27th of November. He brought his lady home on Saturday. They appear very happy in one another. I have not yet seen my brother. *Signet.*

The Same to the Same.

[16]73, December 11—One of my former letters told you that Lord Townshend was married to mistress Mary Ashe on the 27th of November. This day week my Lord fell ill of the gout but to-day he has been able to get up. I have waited upon my brother Thomas and his wife; Lady Wroth went with me, upon whose mother I am sorry I cannot wait so often as I desire, but as soon as Lord Townshend is well I will visit her more frequently.

It has pleased God to lessen our number; as we are sharers in grief so I hope we shall be in affection. It troubles me that I am cast so far from you, but what I cannot help I shall endeavour to submit to, and please God I shall come and lay my bones there as my brother did, who I believe rejoiced to be buried in the sepulchres of his father. *Signet.*

The Same to the Same.

Same date—Concerning a debt of 30*l.* owing to her from her brother Robert, and asking his advice whether she should forego it or claim it from his widow.

Sir Edward Harley to Abigail, Lady Harley.

[16]73[–4], January 7—I am now going to the Parliament where it is hard to tell what is likely to be done. Do not forget what I told you for a day of prayer.

The Same to the Same.

[16]73[–4], January 10—The Lords have received a petition from the guardians of the Earl of Shrewsbury against the Duke of Buckingham for killing the father and living scandalously with the mother. The Lords have addressed a petition to the King to banish all Papists out of London and Westminster and within the distance of ten miles.

T. J—— to Sir Edward Harley.

[16]73[–4], January 10—"Being well assured of your zeale and good afection to the interest of religion, the honour of the King and the safety and happiness of the country, and considering the opportunityes you have to advance all these in being a member of that honourable house which is the bulwark of all these, I have presumed humbly to present these few things to your consideration.

1. Whether the lawes have sufficiently provided against Papists bearing armes as well as against their bearing offices.
2. Whether the lawes have sufficiently provided against all intercourse and correspondence with the court of Rome, or any of its dependents.
3. Whether the lawes have sufficiently provided against the printing and publishing of popish books.
4. Whether, considering the present posture of things, it be not requisite that some severe penalty be imposed by law on such as shall become apostates and revolters from the protestant religion to popery
5. Since the first yeare of Queene Mary began only with publick revilings and defamations of the protestant religion, with bravadoes challenges, etc., which afterwards had direfull and bloody consequences,

   Whether it be not necessary that there be some severe penalty imposed by law on all such as [shall] publickly defame and reproach the protestant religion as heresy.
6. Since a standing army in another generation may be a more dreadfull and formidable evill then att present,

   Whether it be not a point of high and necessary concernment to obviate so tremendous an evill, in providing antidotes against it, whilest a penniworth of security may be had.

7. Whether it be not a matter worthy consideration, that the children of the royall blood be educated in the protestant religion, and provision made for it accordingly." *Seal.*

SIR EDWARD HARLEY to ABIGAIL, LADY HARLEY.

[16]73[–4], January 13—Giving particulars of his indisposition.

A. LADY HARLEY to SIR EDWARD HARLEY, at Westminster.

[16]73[–4], January 13—I am sorry to hear you have been ill, I fear you took cold on your journey. Robin writes to me to desire you to remember to send him some balsam of Peru for his ear.

SIR EDWARD HARLEY to ABIGAIL, LADY HARLEY.

1673[–4], January 17—Concerning his health, and the apprehension and examination of certain deer-stealers who were to be bound over to appear at the sessions and their dogs to be hanged immediately.

The SAME to the SAME.

[16]73[–4], January 20—Reporting an improvement in his health.

The STATES GENERAL.

1673[–4], January 24—The sum of the terms proposed to the King by the Spanish Ambassadors. *See Commons Journals. Same date.*

"The Dutch agree (1) The right of striking sail and the flag. (2) That there be a mutual restoration of all places taken since the warr. (3) That there shall be a regulation of the East India trade by commissioners who are to meet in London. (4) That the English in Surinam shal receive all right in theyr persons and estates as they ought by former treaties. (5) To give the King of England 800000 patacoons—which is about 200000*l.*—for the damages of the warr, payable in three yeares time."

SIR EDWARD HARLEY to ABIGAIL, LADY HARLEY.

1673[–4], January 24—I have been free from my distemper since Tuesday last. My brother Palmer this week lighting out of his coach at the hall door, fell down and the coach passed over both his legs and bruised them. He is better now. I send you the proclamation for the fast. This day the King came to the House of Lords, who were in their robes, and our House was called up. I send you the speech and the articles upon which it is likely we may have peace.

A. LADY HARLEY to SIR EDWARD HARLEY.

[16]73[–4], January 25—It is a great rejoicing to me that you are better and that the worst of this fit is over. The hope of a peace cannot but be welcome when there are such fears of a greater scarcity than there was last year.

SIR EDWARD HARLEY to LADY HARLEY.

[16]73[–4], January 27—The result of the vote to-day is that we shall have peace. The Lord grant us truth.

The Same to the Same.

[16]73[–4], January 31—Sir Edward Bainton has unhappily killed a man, a farmer, on the road to Chippenham.

Richard Stephens to his brother[-in-law], Sir Edward Harley.

[16]73–4, February 3. Essington—A fortnight since there was a great flood here and it is not yet within the banks. Wheat was sold at Bristol near 13*s.* the bushell and that on the ground so bad that a famine is feared for next year. In many places cattle die rotten, and hereabouts all the sheep are gone, so that peace will be welcome to this poor nation. Your daughter Abigail presents her duty to you. *Signet.*

Sir Edward Harley to Abigail, Lady Harley.

[16]73[–4]—It is feared the fens are almost irrecoverably drowned by the late floods.

The States General of the Low Countries to the King of Great Britain.

1674, February 6. The Hague—"In the last letter we wrote to your Majestie, dated the 14–24 of January to accompany the project of the treaty, which wee are ready to conclude with your Majestie, wee told you wee were willing to signe eyther at London or at Collen, as your Majestie should thinke fitt, uppon the presupposal that your Majestie's plenepotentiaries were impowered to treat with our ministers seperately from France, and soe that as things did stand, peace might be concluded in few howers; but being informed by our letters we had last from Collen, that the said plenepotentiaries eyther doe want necessary orders or are unwilling to conclude any seperate treaty, and intend onely to draw the negotiacion in length, wee have thought it necessary to desire once more your Majestie's pasport and safe conduct for one or more embassadors whom wee intend to send forthwith to your Majestie to put a speedy and an happy end to this unfortunate warre which is equally destructive to our subjects on both sides, And howbeit the advances wee have made be such that there is little roome left for a further negotiacion or debate, and that the treaty wee doe propose may be concluded without any delay, yet to demonstrate more plainely the sincerityof our intencions and theardent desire weehave to promote a peace which is soe necessary to all Europe, wee doe from this time offer unto your Majestie a cessacion of armes, provided you may be pleased to enter into a negotiacion with us. Wee have ordered our trumpeter, the bearer hereof, to wayte for your Majestie's answere and further order." *Copy.*

Sir Edward Harley, to Abigail, Lady Harley.

1673[–4, February 7—The likelihood of peace is so far advanced that the cessation of arms is signed here, and Sir William Temple was sent over yesterday to Holland.

The Same to the Same.

[16]73[–4], March 3. Westminster—The weather has been so severe that I have been hindered in my journey. I expect the ways will prove very bad there being already a great deal of snow. "I am likely to help you to a butler, he is a vertuoso, though not of the Royal Society."

RALPH STRETTELL to SIR EDWARD HARLEY.

[16]74, April 14—Sending a box containing, amongst other things twelve lbs of powdered sugar for Lady Harley. *Signet.*

D. M[ITCHELL] to her brother, SIR EDWARD HARLEY.

[16]74, April 21. Piccadilly—Thanking him for kindnesses received, and giving particulars of her recent illness. *Signet.*

The EARL of CLARE to his kinsman, SIR EDWARD HARLEY.

1674, April 27. Haughton—Concerning the choice of a travelling tutor for his son. *Seal of arms.*

[RALPH STRETTELL] to SIR EDWARD HARLEY, at Brampton.

[16]74, May 9—Reporting that "worthy Auditor Beale" in a fit of melancholy had on the previous day, killed himself by throwing himself out of a window. *Signet.*

MARGARET, LADY FITZJAMES, to her brother-[in-law], SIR EDWARD HARLEY.

1674, May 9. London—Concerning a marriage which was contemplated between her daughter Frances and Mr Pelham, and which was being negotiated by Mrs Mitchell and Mr Pelham's sister Mrs Stanhope. *Signet.*

The SAME to the SAME.

[16]74, May 23. London.—Concerning the proposed marriage, and the suicide of Mr Beale. *Signet.*

The EARL of CLARE to his kinsman, SIR EDWARD HARLEY, at Brampton.

[16]74, June 13. Haughton—Recommending him to try the Yorkshire Spa for his gout. *Signet.*

MATTHEW POOLE to SIR EDWARD HARLEY, in Herefordshire.

1674, June 30—The object of this letter is to entreat you "to receive these advertisements and to dispose of them" to such subscribers as are of your neighbourhood and acquaintance. *Printed.*

D. MITCHELL to her brother, SIR EDWARD HARLEY.

[16]74, August 3. Stiffkey—I hope to hear of your safe return from the Bath and that you have received benefit from it. *Signet.*

The EARL of CLARE to his kinsman [SIR EDWARD HARLEY].

1674, August 6. Haughton—I write this chiefly to hear of your welfare. Were you at the Bath "when the pleasant feud hapened betwixt Carwell and my Lady Worster about lodgings?"[a]

T. J—— to Sir Edward Harley, at Brampton.

1674, August 18—The "books" can inform you as much as I can, of foreign affairs. The French King is professedly keeping peace by all means, and by the Swedes mediation again, Oxenstern being on his way to Paris on purpose. He is raising the cream and flower of his grand nobility and guards to help "at a dead best;" most of his former guards being cut off and most of his garrisons were drained beforehand to make up those great armies for Prince Condé. *Signet.*

The Same to the Same.

1674, September 3—The King came to town on Tuesday. The two archbishops Sharp and Leighton and the late archbishop Burnett are here together. I hope for good; the one having resigned and the other like to be restored and to reassume his dignity.

Affairs abroad are in much the same posture since the fight. Prince Condé is stil entrenched and the Prince of Orange hovering about him. "Burnevile," increased to 30000, is said to be marching towards Lorraine; Turenne entrenched behind for self defence. *Signet.*

The Same to the Same.

1674, September 26—You have heard of the issue of the siege of Oudenarde, which was, it seems, rather intended to draw Condé out of his trenches to make him fight; but when it came to it "they say" Zouch would not, having had, as we hear, his confessor the night before privately with Condé, for which the Prince of Orange and the other great commanders intend to accuse and impeach him to the Emperor; and if no satisfaction be had, it is thought it may be improved for making up a peace with the French and to leave the Spanish and the Emperor to shift for themselves.

The Lord General having on Friday received the chamberlain's staff, went next day to the Bath, but returns to-night having been alarmed with the sad and sudden news of the burning down of his house, Goring House, with all that was in it.

D. Mitchell to her brother, Sir Edward Harley, at Brampton.

[16]74, December 8, Raynham.—Enquiring after his health, and announcing Lady Townshend's approaching delivery.

Mary Croft to her kinswoman, Lady Harley.

1674, December 11, Bristol—Enquiring whether she had received some wine she had sent her.

Thomas Colthurst to Thomas Harley, at Downton.

[16]74, December 19. Falcon Court, Fleet Street—Enclosing an account. *Signet.*

E. Lady Harley to her brother[-in-law], Sir Edward Harley, at Brampton.

1674, December 26, London—On business. *Signet.*

[T. J——] to Sir Edward Harley, at Brampton.

1674-5, January 4—I looked for something more momentous to impart to you relating to the meeting of our reverend Fathers concerning the means of preserving the protestant religion, preventing the growth of Popery, and securing the government of the Church as now established by law. There has been some threatening of Mr Baxter's meeting at Saint James's, his usual place; and Mr Cawton and the Justices were solicited by informers against them, but nothing is yet done. Mr Woodbridge of Newbury is silenced and his licence revoked by the Bishop of Salisbury. The Bishop of Bristol began briskly with that city but at last went away with a resolution to trouble himself no more, and yet since the hearing is begun again, being, it seems, excited by others of his order. They and other dissenters become very sensible of the Duke of York's kindness in concerning himself so vigorously for liberty, yet I observe that the reverend Fathers are not so satisfied with him for it.

Some think you will meet at the time appointed, but others think that a new Parliament will be summoned before. I cannot understand why, but I think it may depend upon the ripening of our resolutions for a war with Spain. Then let the Dutch take their part and try the issue, if they will not be persuaded to a general nor separate peace with France. However there is no order yet given to our merchants to call home their effects from Spain, and Lord Arlington is not yet returned.

A. Stephens to Sir Edward Harley, in London.

[16]74[-5], January 19—We rejoice with you at dear nephew Ned's recovery. *Signet.*

Richard Stephens to Sir Edward Harley, at Brampton.

[16]74[-5], January 29. Essington—Giving particulars of his sister's dangerous illness, and thanking Lady Harley for offering to come and assist her. *Signet.*

E. Lady Harley to Sir Edward Harley, at Brampton.

1674 [-5], January 30. London—The match is concluded between Sir Thomas Williams's son and Sir William Dowell's daughter. They say she is heir to 2,000*l.* a year. *Signet.*

Richard Stephens to his brother[-in-law], Sir Edward Harley.

[16]74 [-5], February 3. Essington—I am obliged for your many kindnesses especially for my sister's coming here last night. She found my sister in a cheerful condition, but she is still in great danger.

E. Beale to Sir Edward Harley.

1674-5, February 13—I am sorry for the sad occasion of my lady's travelling at this season of the year. I shall be glad to hear she is safe returned, and of Mrs Cholmeley's recovery.

E. Lady Harley to Sir Edward Harley, at Brampton.

1674[-5], March 6—It is said that the Treasurer is to be put out, and Sir Stephen Fox put in his place. *Signet.*

E. Beale to Sir Edward Harley.

1764–5, March 6—I have been much concerned this week for my cousin Kate Fitzjames who is sick of the small pox. The doctor gives hopes, but it is an ill kind of pox. It has roused my poor lady out of her illness; she kept her bed before and fancied she should never leave it.

I suppose you have heard how busy the informers are. Mr Baxter was fetched out of his house with a warrant for preaching Thursday sennight; but the justice said the crime was done in London and he was a Middlesex justice and so dismissed him; but we hear they have another warrant. Last Sabbath three justices came with soldiers to Doctor Manton's, made the ministers come down, and secured him a while, "but it being one that had taken the oath, they fined him only 20*l.* and let him goe." They say the Lord Mayor and aldermen are very loath to meddle, but yet they think they must be forced to so. I am glad to hear my lady is returned safe and Mrs Cholmeley recovering. *Signet.*

T. J—— to Sir Edward Harley, at Brampton.

1674–5, March 9—Our reverend church rulers seem to talk of a coalition with the presbyterians, but as I can learn nothing of their abolition or abatement of a ceremony I need a new Latin dictionary to understand the signification of such a coalition.

What effect the printed declarations have had in the country you best know, but not much here yet. Only last Friday Mr Baxter, who has lately published a paper whereof you have a copy subjoined hereto, was seized for a conventicle at Fetter Lane by one Justice Medlicot and Charles Bennet, Lord Arlington's brother, Westminster Justices, the Lord Mayor not being at home, Sir John Frederick being otherwise engaged, and Sir William Turner downright refusing to give the informer any such warrant. That night Mr Baxter, by permission of the constable came to my house. Some bishops that I encountered at the Duke's house, seemed much concerned for Mr Baxter's sake, and I believe were heartily sorry that the first breach was made on him, and offered their services to get him off. But I told them there was no need, and so it proved, for the next morning being brought before Sir William Pulteney, he told the informer that those justices had no power to grant nor he to execute the warrant, and for Cawton and two others in the same warrant, that before he would [ ] the King's subjects he would be satisfied with the quality and credit of the informer.

Mr Cawton was summoned for last Lord's day meeting by Justice Newman but he was afterwards dismissed by Mr Bennett. Doctor Manton's meeting was disturbed and names taken by Justices Ball and Ross who were accompanied by soldiers, by order, they say, of the Duke of Monmouth to whom this Ross belongs, but Sir J. Baber sends me word that the whole proceeding there was illegal and so we hear no more since.

Mr. Cawton has been since brought before Justice Newman but not convicted for want of a second witness, so that yesterday he preached again without disturbance, all being quiet as before, both thereabout and in the city, only Dr. Manton retired in private and Baxter did not preach at all What further attempts will be yet made we know not.

Postscript—Mr. Marvell desires to be remembered to you. Mr. Baxter being here with me this day tells me the cause of his not preaching was that he hath but two days more lease of his praying place at St. James's, and was not willing to venture his liberty hereafter for making use of

that place for so short a time, being informed that he was to be apprehended, but intends to proceed in praying. *Signet. On the same sheet is a copy of the paper by Mr. Baxter referred to in the letter, relative to a settlement of the disputes between the Protestant Dissenters and the Church of England.*

E. Lady Harley to her sister[-in-law, Dorothy Mitchell].

[1674[–5], March 9—Describing her money difficulties. *Signet.*

—— to Sir Edward Harley.

[16]74–5, March 11—We were very quiet here last Sabbath and had not the least disturbance. It is said however they have sent to all the beadles of each hall to come in before the Lord Mayor and to receive orders from him not to permit any conventions in their halls, and also that the names of teachers and hearers be observed to the end that they may indict them next sessions. Doctor Manton's was violently broken up by Sir Matthew Wren and another Justice with redcoats lately, and they are about laying distresses of 30,000*l.* commenced against the justices by Lord Wharton who was then present, in respect of some irregularity. *Signet*

B. M[itchell] to her brother, Sir Edward Harley.

[16]75, April 12. Stiffkey—I was in great trouble for my niece, Abigail, till I heard she had passed the worst. I pray God preserve your other children from the infection. Mine, on account of the holidays, are all at home. *Signet.*

A. Lady Harley to Sir Edward Harley, at the Lobby, London.

[16]75, April 13—"Nan" fell ill on Friday last and yesterday evening the small pox appeared. Her sister is with her so I do not go to her often because the young folks are not willing to keep from me. *Signet.*

The Same to the Same.

[16]75, April 23—Im my last I sent you word of Martha's illness. The pox appeared that day. She is as well as can be expected in such a condition. I think Brill is more afraid now that she shall not have it now that she sees it is so gentle. She and Kate keep very well, and their maid has had the disease so that now we make good shift. To-day Margaret complains, but I believe it is not the pox but the measles which Weaver and Hugh are suffering from. I hope the butler will do well of his pox. We have been in fear for Judy but we hope the worst is past. Mary's attack is very kindly. Nan is pretty well again. I hear that young Lady Midleton is lately dead of the small pox which appeared shortly after her delivery of a son.

B. Mitchell to her brother, Sir Edward Harley.

[16]75, April 23—Asking for news of the recovery of her niece Abigail and informing him that Lord Townshend "is a very joyfull father."

A. Lady Harley to Sir Edward Harley, at Westminster.

[16]75, April 30—No more of this family have sickened and of those sick some are up again and others in a hopeful way. I should be glad of a bottle of treacle water, and a little with "vegor stone," some "diascordium," confection of hyacinths, and some prepared "purle."

The Same to the Same, in New Southampton Buildings.

[16]75, May 4—Asking him to send, "metridate and diascordium, and manna," and also hartshorn, sassafras and gentian, "purle and vegor." *Signet.*

Richard Stephens to his brother[-in-law], Sir Edward Harley.

[16]75, May 5. Chavenage—My sister Cholmeley sent a messenger last Thursday to Brampton, who returned with the comfortable news of the hopeful recovery of all who were ill. I hear my niece Babby was at church last Sunday. It seems the disease is very favourable. I cannot but think my Kate may be a trouble to my sister at this time. I pray give order to Mr. Birch that my nephews may come here this Whitsuntide.

A. Lady H[arley] to Sir Edward Harley.

[16]75, May 7—If Ned Hill's face prove like our folks here he will not be able to appear abroad for some time, for after the pox is scaled off they rise up in bumps. I believe it is occasioned by their picking them off before they are ripe. Martha has risen these three days. She is pretty well. Brill was not well last night, she was hot and did not sleep well but she thinks it may prove only a cold.

The Same to the Same.

[16]75, May 11—Informing him that Brill had taken the small pox and asking him to send some "prunelas" and also some "irish slate" and spermaceti, manna, and jalap in powder.

The Same to the Same.

[16[75, May 14—Giving a favourable report of Brill and Martha.

The Same to the Same.

[16]75, May 18—I hope I may say that Brill is now past danger. To-day she is able to open her eyes, which have been shut ever since the coming out of the pox.

The Same to the Same.

[16]75, May 25—Brill rose to day and is pretty well. She will be very little marked. Martha went in the chariot to see the young swans of which there are six. No one has fallen sick since my last letter, and the last sick are growing every day stronger.

The Same to the Same.

[13]75, May 28—All the family are well and abroad except Brill who is well in her chamber.

The Same to the Same.

[16]75, June 4—All the family are in health, and Brill went out last Wednesday.

Richard Stephens to his brother[-in-law], Sir Edward Harley.

[16]75, June 18. Chavenage—I suppose you hear in London of the quarrel between Sir John Guise and Sir Robert Atkins. Sir John is run through, but the surgeons think he may recover. I am glad to hear all the family at Brampton are so well recovered.

A. Lady H[arley] to Sir Edward Harley.

[16]75, June 15—I bless God the children and whole family are well. You will see many speckled faces which are marks of God's goodness in sparing the lives of all. I trust the disease will stop in the family and then the boys may come safely home at Michaelmas.

Peregrine Palmer to his sister[-in-law], Lady Harley.

1675, September 3. Fairfield—Though it has pleased God to take my dear wife I shall ever have the same respect and esteem for all her relations. My boys are both at Winchester. I had thought of sending Tom to Oxford but I hear that the small pox is very much there. I am glad that I shall see you in London.

Peregrine Palmer to his brother[-in-law], Sir Edward Harley, at Brampton.

1675, September 3. Fairfield—Sir William Wyndham was taken very dangerously ill at our assizes with an apoplexy. He is now at the Bath and has married one of his daughters to Sir Walter Earl's grandchild. *Signet.*

Lord Conway to his cousin, Sir Edward Harley.

1675, October 4. Alcester (Alster)—I am glad to hear I shall have your company to London and shall certainly go on Thursday in my coach where you will have Doctor More and my nephew Rawdon to wait upon you. *Signet.*

Elizabeth, Lady Wroth to her aunt, Katherine Bromfield.

1675, December 10—I am sensible of our great loss in my uncle Robin. I did not expect mourning, but if my uncle is pleased to give it I would have crape. I will have it made in London. I am glad my cousin Betty has a match so much to all her friends satisfaction. *Signet.*

A Test.

1675.—"I A. B. doe declare that it is not lawfull uppon any pretence whatsoever to take armes against the King, and that I doe abhor that traiterus posistion of taking arms by his authority against his person or against those that are commissioned by him according to law in time of rebellion and ware in acting in pursuance of such commissions.

That I will not endevor to subvert the Protestant religion now established in the Church of England nor to subvert the Government either in Church or State."

[A. Lady Harley] to Sir Edward Harley, at Brampton.

[16]75[-6], January 8—Sister Bromfield is ill and thinks London does not agree with her. She wishes for your coming.

The only news is that Lord Holles and Lord Halifax are put out of the Council. This French Duchess furnishes the women with some tattle. I hope the white damask and red satin will not be forgotten when you come.

K. Bromfield to her brother[-in-law], Sir Edward Harley, at Brampton.

1676, April 11—This morning I sent your letter to Westminster to Mr Marvell but he has been out of town for a fortnight. *Signet.*

Lord Holles to Sir Edward Harley.

[16]76, May 9—I have received yours of the May 2nd with the enclosed paper. It is the opinion of the noble persons you mention that nothing more can be done in the matter that what is done, "and to make this use of it to have still eyes and eares open to discover and observe all one can, for if mischief be hatching, as probably it is, the nearer it approaches more indications will appeare, and such as one may more boldly appeare against." *Signet.*

Sir Edward Harley to his sister[-in-law], Edith, Lady Harley.

[16]76, October 17—My excuse for not writing to you is the distemper of my health which has been very troublesome to me, occasioned in great part by the Bath waters disagreeing with me. *Copy.*

Christiana, Lady St. John.

1676.—"Here lieath the mortall part of Christiana, Lady St. Johns late wife of Charles, Lord St. Johns, Baron of Bezinge and doughter of John Fresheville Esquire, who in memory of his derest child cauesed these stones to be laid to geather.

Shee dyed in childbed the 22nd day of July 1653. Her infant John Pawlet survinge his mother seaven days lyes here interred with her.

In the window over the Lord Fresheville's hears is writen *Dom. Johnnes Fresheville, Baron de Staly posint.* 1676." *Endorsed* "Upon the Lady St. John's toomb at Stavley church."

A. Lady Harley to Sir Edward Harley, in Tothill Street, Westminster.

1676[-7], February 9—The horses came back safe last night and brought the news that you and your young company had got safe to Shilton. I trust that on Tuesday we shall hear of your safe arrival in London. *Signet.*

[Sir Edward Harley] to Lady Harley, at Brampton.

[16]76[-7], February 13—This day I had the mercy to accompany some that presented to the throne of Grace the state of our sad land. If we had millions of armies, only in the name of the Lord stands our help. Lord Townshend has another son. *Signet.*

A. Lady Harley to Sir Edward Harley.

[16]76[-7], March 2—Colonel James dined here with my brother. He hath been giving my brother an account of how Radnorshire business stands. The Sheriff had not the writ yesterday.

Postscript, in Richard Stephens' handwriting. "I cannot understand that Mr Williams declines it. Colonel James saith that yesterday at Kingston, Mr Powell seemd resolved to yield to Mr Williams, and to that end they were to meet this day at Radnor, at least to discourse it, and to joyne against strangers, and that Mr Lewis of Monaughty resolves the same. The writ was not yesterday come to the sheriff. Mr Vaghan and that party are confident, and stirre much for Mr Price, but I suppose Mr Williams hath the greater number, especially if he have—as he saith—eight hundred. Richard Green had a discharge from the sheriff sent him down by Mr Owens and is come out. When he had his discharge he went to the minister to speak to Dr Sherborn" who declined to assist him. Green says that while he was at the Talbot, three men "sitting together in a room at a wood fire, saw in the fire the shape of a face; eyes, nose, cheeks, of flesh color and a crown on the head, which they three looked on a pretty space with affrightment, and scarcely will speak of it. Green told them, martyrdom hath a crown."

Sir Edward Harley to Lady Harley, at Brampton.

[16]76[-7], March 3—Reporting his "gouty condition," and asking for news of the Radnorshire election.

[The Same] to [the Same.]

[16]76[-7], March 6—The money bill advances; today has been spent about an address to the King to prevent the loss of Flanders to the French.

The Same to the Same.

]16]76[-7], March 24—"The French promise themselves speedily Cambray and St. Omer, then designe to be upon their defensive against the Spanish and Dutch confederates. In Earl of Bristol's room the King hath confered he Garter upon the Lord Treasurer." *Signet.*

The Same to the Same.

[16]77, April 10—The money bills are almost finished so that we are likely to adjourn this week. The Prince of Orange has had a great defeat near St. Omer. *Signet.*

[Andrew] Marvell to Sir Edward Harley, at Brampton.

1677, July 17—"I suppose you may not be uncurious to know what passed yesterday, which I shall therefore give you as I have

it from several hands. The Parliament men in town met at the House: none scarce came on purpose. They say there might be about a hundred and forty, but three parts of them of the Court. The Speaker came in about ten o'clock and after prayers took the Chair. Forthwith in the same instant Secretary Coventry delivered a verbal message that it was the King's pleasure the House should immediately adjourn till the 3rd of December. The House then cried 'Adjourn, Adjourn,' as soon as the Speaker had repeated the message, and it seemed that he was no less ready to pronounce the adjournment without expecting further the House's pleasure or putting the question. But my Lord Cavendish modestly moved in few words, which Mr. Williams seconded, something more briskly but as short, that they might have the order read whereby they were last adjourned. Yet there was on purpose so set and general a noise made for adjournment that they could scarce be heard; and the Speaker thereupon without further ceremony pronounced of himself the words 'This House is adjourned till the third of December next.' Those that were not pleased with it are displeased, and may turn the buckle of their girdle behind them. I hear this motion was not made with hope or intention to bring it up to any debate or question, where the number was so unequal, but only to lay a claim for hereafter to question the Speaker. The order they ask for was, I hear, entered that the House adjourned itself, which if it had been read did naturally lead to examine the fact which was contrary. We say Lorain killed a thousand French and English in this late action; Captain Lawson, my Lord Carlisle's nephew, Captain Mackartie, and sixty officers; that the Prince is set down before Charleroy and he coming to cover the siege. But the Dane has utterly destroyed the Swede's whole navy."

The SAME to the SAME.

1677, August 7—"I am happy that the same letter which brought me the first news of your indisposition added that of your recovery. The Earl of Salisbury after having his petition several times corrected, broke the ice and at last acknowledged therein his unadvised discourse concerning the Prorogation. Hereupon he was fully discharged, only with condition to make the same submission to the House of Lords when sitting. The Lord Wharton writ after the same copy and had the same order. The King jested with him and said he would teach him a text of Scripture; 'It will be very acceptable from your Majesty,' 'Sin no more' 'Your Majesty has that from my quotation of it to my Lord Arlington when he had been before the House of Commons.' 'Well my Lord you and I are both old men, and we should love quietness. 'Beside all other obligations I have reason to desire it having some 1500*l.* a year to lose.' 'Ay my Lord but you have an aching tooth still.' 'No indeed, mine are all fallen out.' The Duke of Buckingham petitioned only that he had laid so long, had contracted several indispositions, and desired a month's air. This was by Nelly, Middlesex, Rochester and the merry gang easily procured with presumption to make it an entire liberty. Hereupon he laid constantly in Whitehall at my Lord Rochester's lodgings leading the usual life. The Duke of York, the Treasurer, and, they tell me too, the Duke of Monmouth, remonstrated to the King that this was to leap over all rules of decency and to suffer his authority to be trampled on, but if he had a favour for him he might do it in a regular way. Nevertheless it was for some days a moot point betwixt the Ministers of State and ministers of pleasure who should carry it. At last Buckingham was advertised that he should retire out of Whitehall. He obeyed and since presented

they say a more acknowledging petition than either Salisbury's or Wharton's. Whereupon I hear that he was yesterday by the same rule dismissed. People were full of vain imaginations what changes he would make in Court, but he loves pleasure better than revenge, and yet this last is not the meanest luxury. The Earl of Shaftesbury's lady the other day petitioned he might have a month at St. Giles: but the King received it without any further notice or usual respect. Yet there are that say the Court would be glad to be rid of him on easier terms than the other Lords, but that he is too scrupulous of honour. Indeed I will tell you an incredible story, yet there is but little room to doubt of it: that on the 16th of July the Lord Stafford gave him a visit, told him he was sorry that after having tried so many ways there was none to get out. But yet there was one left. 'Which is that I beseech you'? 'Your Lordship is wise and sagacious enough to understand what, without my further describing it.' He paused and said 'I suppose I comprehend, your Lordship, you would have the Duke to write a new creed for me and I to subscribe it, but I shall never do it. He has done his worst to me yet would do worse if it were in his power. He would have my head, but I shall yet wear it in despite of him, and live perhaps to come betwixt him and his great hopes. And for you my Lord 'tis a mean office and unfit for a person of honour to have made me such a motion; nor can you expiate it but by acquainting the Duke with all I have said, which I demand of you.' What occasion was there for all this? He is like to be left for the reckoning. It is some weeks since that the Earl of Ossory and Don Carlos went for the Prince of Orange's army, and since that the Duke of Albemarle. The French Ambassador complained of it to the King. Hereupon Monmouth and Feversham were immediately posted away for the French army, and since then Mulgrave Middleton and Lumley. The field conventicles in Scotland are very rife, more than ever. And the proceedings against them as violent. Even poor herd-boys are fined shillings and sixpences. They quarter troopers all where they hear conventicles have kept. One gentleman fined 500*l.* sterling and imprisoned because he will not take oath to answer all their questions and tell the Nonconformist's name that baptized his child. At a Nonconformist Minister's child's burial at Glasgow there came from seven miles about near three thousand people to spite the Bishop of Argyle who is also parson of Glasgow, who would not suffer the bellman to publish the burial after the usual manner, 'child to such an one Minister of the Gospel at Maidlan,' *but sometimes minister*; wherefore they employed not the bellman at all; but a woman seeing the Bishop peep out cried aloud, 'Ha thief thou wilt never have so many at thy burial except thou be hanged.' Mr. Jenkins is richly married, Owen tolerably, to Mrs. Doily. The King gone by sea for Portsmouth. I am much out of town which has caused this late return."

ROBERT HARLEY to his father, SIR EDWARD HARLEY.

[16]77, September 11—Mr Martin will give you particulars of the "beastly prank of my Lord Rochester and my Lord Lovelace and ten other men, which they committed on that Sabath day which [they] where at Estington, which was there running along Woodstock Park naked."

HEREFORDSHIRE.

1667, September 24—Establishment made by the Lord Lieutenant for the pay of the inferior officers, trumpeters, and drummers, for the horse and foot soldiers in Herefordshire.

ROBERT HARLEY to his father, SIR EDWARD HARLEY.

16[77], October 20. Shilton—Giving particulars of his illness.

[ANDREW] MARVELL to [SIR EDWARD HARLEY].

1677, November 17—"My indiscretion in talking so much and so extravagantly concerning myself in my last letter—but I know with whom it is deposed—makes me write this for amends. The Prince goes away on Monday. I hear the French have besieged our Lady of Halle near Brussells. As my Lord Hollis said, whom I dined with to-day, they fight when others are gone to bed, and before they be up. I fear they will carry Friburg too. The confederate ministers here are jealous lest England, France, and Holland have allied to force a peace upon the rest, seeming specious but really noxious. To-day is acted the first time *Sir Popular Wisdom* or *the Politician*, where my Lord Shaftesbury and all his gang are sufficiently personated. I conceive the King will be there. The Lady Portsmouth is passing a patent for the whole coal farm, and £1200 a year in the meantime. No Archbishop yet appears: we think London. Taunton is forced to be a Corporation; Bishop Mew and Earl of Rochester two of the Aldermen. Bishop sent next day for Mr. Newton. Why could he not conform now as well as then? Assent and consent. Why? Onc. And they rebelled against. And they were obedient to his word. Very angry. Heavy havoc there since. To cure your gout at any time the chandlers boys have got a trick of making squibs exquisitely in candles. One of them by chance set up to burn by him all night lying in of gout and stone. It did a most admirable real ridiculous effect; made him run up and down like a squib crying 'Devil, Murder, Treason.' I have not further of what I last inclosed."

LORD CONWAY to his cousin, SIR EDWARD HARLEY.

1677, November 22. Ragley—"Heere you will finde me playing the foole in laying out mony upon building, having cheefely undertaken it because I finde my grandfather designed to build heere; yet I am not satisfied with my selfe. I have almost finisht one side of the out building and halfe the garden wall which I am planting with fruit trees. Next yeare I hope to finish the other part of the out-building and the rest of the garden wall. I have also the modell of the house designed."

LADY FITZJAMES to LADY HARLEY.

[16]77–8, January 12. London—Regretting to hear that Sir Edward was still ill.

SIR EDWARD HARLEY to LADY HARLEY, at Brampton.

[16]77[–8], January 19. Westminster—We are in great fear here, prayer is the only remedy for it.

LORD TOWNSHEND to SIR EDWARD HARLEY, in Tothill Street, Westminster.

[16]77–8, January 24. Raynham—"The misfortunes I have had ever since I had a park, provoked me to make use" of you. I never

could get a keeper that was civil or well qualified for his post, but if this one you mention comes and proves well, you will have sent me a jewel. I give my keeper ten or twelve pounds a year wages, the keep of a horse and his diet, and lodging in my house, his fees for the deer I give away, and the skins of all that are killed. I design always to keep up a stock of five hundred deer.

I am sorry the gout follows you so hard, I am full of it also. *Signet.*

The Same to the Same.

[16]77-8, February 3. Raynham.—I shall be glad to hear that you have a good return to your address, so that we may appear in earnest and go on heartily in this war. For the keeper, I am satisfied with his skill but I will not take a man that has served Sir Baynham Throckmorton, without his good will.

The Earl of Clare to Sir Edward Harley.

1677-8, February 6. Haughton—On business. *Signet.*

Sir Edward Harley to Lady Harley.

[16]77[-8], February 13—The charge of the ships and land soldiers is computed at 158000*l. per mensem.* "Sinful England wil soon be poor England."

Sir Edward Harley to his son, Robert Harley, at Shilton.

[16]77[-8], February 14. Westminster—If your disease (rupture) trouble you again be not dejected, God's time is the best for healing. "Redeem the time you have in some measure lost at home. Be a pattern of studious diligence to your brothers and cosin, also of brotherly kindnes and care. I thank you and Ned for the Greek and Latin. Write to mee how you all are. The House of Commons have voted to supply the King for his alliances against France with ninety ships and 30000 foot, horse and dragoons." Whether there be war or peace, the nation is likely to be impoverished.

Lord Townshend to Sir Edward Harley, in Tothill Street.

[16]77-8, March 2. Raynham—I am sorry for Scotland but my fears are great for England. I am at a loss for a housekeeper; perhaps you might help me by inquiring amongst your fellow members. *Signet.*

Sir Edward Harley to Lady Harley.

[16]77[-8], March 14—The House of Commons resolved itself into a committee and voted an address to the King praying him to declare actual war against the French King.

March 15—The House of Commons passed a new bill for burying in woollen, also a bill to enjoin all "outward" apparel from November 1st to March 25th yearly to be of wool.

Upon a paper delivered by the Quakers complaining that two parts of their estates were seized as if they were Popish Recusants, a Committee was appointed to consider how to distinguish them from Popish Recusants.

The Same to the Same.

[16]77[-8], March 23—I send a runlet of ten gallons of canary and as a gift to yourself, a pound of powder and a pair of silk stockings. Sister Stephens send a hundred "artichoc" plants and two "laurestynes."

[The Same] to [The Same].

1678, March 26.—It is expected tomorrow Parliament will adjourn. I shall go by coach to Oxford.

Thomas Harley to Robert Harley, at Shilton.

[16]78, March 28. Br[asenose] College—A letter of good advice. *Latin.*

Nathaniel Worley, Christopher Worley and Francis Worley to ———

1678, April 13. Henley upon Thames—An account of the ill behaviour of Captain Kyrke, Lieutenant Colonel to the Earl of Feversham, on the 4th of April 1678 at Henley. *Copy.*

Sir E. H[arley] to [Lady Harley].

[16]78, April 27—The Committee concerning the growth of Popery sate several days this week. I cannot write for certain whether we shall have peace or war, or what Holland will do. Certainly we are in a very dangerous tottering condition.

[The Same] to the Same.

[16]78, May 4. Westminster—There are many mortalities of our country. Sir John Barnaby's and Major Cornewall's ladies; Mr Unett; Sir Herbert Perrott's son killed; the Duke of Somerset shot through the body in Savoy.

"Think not of riding horsback to Bath; if care be taken I hope the coach hors wil doe wel."

[The Same] to [the Same].

[16]78, May 11—The weather of a sudden is extremely hot. The bill of mortality increases. One died of the plague this week

[The Same] to [the Same].

[16]78, June 8—I had not before yesterday a clear representation of Mr P[opham]'s estate. It is worth 800*l.* a year in the whole, but the mother's jointure is so large that the son's part is too small to maintain a family, so that without some expedient I do not see how the matter can proceed. Brill and Robin are well.

The Same to the Same.

[16]78, June 11—Take my bathing linen with you to Bath, maybe I may come to use it. Mr Popham sent this day a handsome letter, but the present stick is for a sufficient maintenance.

EDWARD HARLEY to his father, SIR EDWARD HARLEY.

[16]78, June 15 Shilton—Giving an account of the death of Mr Giles which was caused by the fall of a branch of a tree as he was sitting at Sir Edward Pettiplace's door.

[SIR E. HARLEY] to [LADY HARLEY].

[16]78, June 15—Robin is now well; I think his being here is for his benefit. "I am more than before discouraged from Oxford. I have fully made my proposition to the Lady Wharton." I hope you may have a prosperous bathing season.

[The SAME] to the SAME, at Mr. Matthew's House near the Cross-bath in Bath.

[16]78, June 18—I hope this will find you safely arrived at Bath. This day the King in a speech to both Houses desired an additional revenue for life of 300000*l.*, which the House of Commons refused.

The SAME to the SAME.

[16]78, June 22—Yesterday there was a terrible storm of rain. This street and my lodgings and most of the houses in town were filled in all the lower rooms with water.

You must be careful in writing the superscription of your letters, and seal them not with wafer but with wax. Your two last letters reached me opened.

The SAME to the SAME.

[16]78, June 25—Thanks be to God for your safe arrival at Bath. Our business goes on. It is desired by his friends, but if it be not agreeable to you it shall not be. The House has become very thin; almost all are weary and gone into the country.

[The SAME] to [the SAME.]

[16]78, July 4—All your directions concerning Thomas Harley cannot be performed. "Robin, to comply with the urgency of his step-mother, is to goe towards Shilton tomorrow." I think Brill goes to Brampton next week. This day tells great news of the defeat of a considerable part of the Duke of Lorraine's army by the French.

The SAME to the SAME.

[16]78, July 6—The Worcester coach is taken for Brill and Nan for Monday sennight. There is a great rub in that business which has lasted a week. I know not how it will do, but I am advised not to depart from my proposition. Render my service to Sir Gobart Barrington. I wish, if it were convenient to you, you would be acquainted with Sir Harbottle Grimston's lady, who is at Bath.

[LADY HARLEY] to [SIR EDWARD HARLEY].

[16]78, July 6—I received your letter this morning in a "sweating bathe" in my bed. I will practice your advice of "pumping" my side,

though whatever I have done, has been done with fear of making it increase. I am sorry you have come to dislike the dealing of some in that business. If it be the mother or near relations it will make you look well about you. I shall not object to anything you do. If you have promised for one year let that be no trouble to you, if he can be content with such entertainment as our house affords, which must be "beneathe what is amongst his relations." If it goes on I think you must give a suit of hangings to the parlour chamber. I think you should bring the matter to some issue before you leave town.

SIR EDWARD HARLEY to LADY HARLEY, at Bath.

[16]78, July 9—"Embassador Montagu is suddenly come over and said to be in disgrace heer; whether the intriguer be male or female I know not, nor can I tel you what is done by their Graces in Scotland. Our affair is something like the public, not capable of giving you certayn account. Hee hath seen shee and offered a present, a necklace of perl, but was, with all civility, not taken." I hope there will be a determination in two days.

SIR EDWARD HARLEY to ROBERT HARLEY, at Shilton, near Barford.

1678, July 10. Westminster—A letter of good advice.

[The SAME] to the SAME, at Shilton.

[16]78, September 17. Brampton—If any speak to you about your sister's affair you may truly say that it has not yet proceeded so far that any account can be given of it. Study the Greek Lexicon and Erasmus's *Adages*.

[The SAME] to the SAME.

[16]78, October 23—Acquaint Mr Birch that it will not now be needful to provide you a lodging at Oxford. I have altered my thoughts therein.

THOMAS MORGAN

1678, November 19—Deposition before the House of Lords concerning a street brawl in Westminster in connection with the popish plots. *Copy.*

NEWS LETTER.

1678, November 21—Two Yorkshire persons who came up to inform concerning a design of the Papists to fire the Fleet, one of them stepping out of his lodging two nights since, two unknown persons asked him for these Yorkshiremen. He replying that he was one of them, they told him they were his countrymen and desired his acquaintance and would give him ale at a house near. He refused to go and was immediately knocked down and stabbed through the arm into the body but not quite killed.

Young Staley, a papist goldsmith in Chandos Street, who has threatened, if others failed, to murder the King, was this day at the King's Bench condemned to be executed as a traitor.

The Duke of Ormond having given notice of 1000*l.* transmitted to Daniel Arthur upon pretence of founding a seminary for English and Irish papists at Poictiers, Mr Arthur was examined concerning the money. He acknowledged that he had received it, but some time since the money was called for out of his hands. Arthur is an Irish papist, a great dealer for exchanges out of Ireland.

Sir Henry Goodrich, who is designed Ambassador for Spain instead of Sir William Godolphin, was challenged on Wednesday by Captain Pack. Pack and his second, Sir William Hartopp's son, were disarmed and wounded by Sir Henry and his second, Sir Thomas Mauleverer. Secretary Coventry yesterday read a letter in the House from Conyers the assassin, dated from Brussels, that if he might be assured not to be prosecuted as a priest, he would come to justify himself against the accusations of Oates and Beddoe.

The Parliament.

1678.—"A list of the unanimous club of voters in his Majestie's Long Parliament, dissolved in [16]78, very fitt to be thought on at the next new choice."

Paul Foley to Sir Edward Harley.

1678[-9], January 24—It is creditably reported that it was declared to night in Council that Parliament should be dissolved and a new one called, to sit on the 6th of March.

The Oxford Circuit.

1679, March—A list of the Justices ordered to be left out and a list of those ordered to be inserted in the Commissions of the peace of the Counties in the Oxford circuit, which comprised Berks, Oxford, Gloucester, Monmouth, Hereford, Worcester, Salop and Stafford.

Abigail Harley to her brother, Edward Harley, at Shilton.

1679, April 18. Brampton—We expect my mother home next week. I have been free of my ague above fourteen days. I trust it will not return.

The Privy Council.

1679, April 21—A list of the names of the members of the new Privy Council, appointed in place of the Council dissolved by the King.

The Poll tax.

1679, April—A list of the rates at which the poll tax was to be assessed; beginning with Dukes at 50*l.*

[Sir Edward Harley] to [Lady Harley.]

[16]79, May 10—I hope you have arrived safely at Brampton. "The Pottle pot since you went, meethinkes is very solitary, and though

you know I am sensible enough of many reasons to desire to be at home yet there is fear we may be sent thither too soon The two houses are now at great distance concerning the tryal of the Earl of Danby and the five Lords, so that the expectation of the filled scaffolds in Westminster Hal this day was defeated. Several daies have rumored a speedy return of the Duke of Y[ork]. Some say to England, some to the protestant profession. This story may be dispersed to modifie the debates of to-morrow, the Lord's Day being once again appointed by the House of Commons to sit upon to consider to secure the Protestant religion from a Popish Prince." I hope the death of the Bishop of Saint Andrews will not prove of very unhappy consequence. Give my blessing to my son and daughter Popham.

[The Same] to [the Same.]

[16]79, May 13—"The great vote of Lord's day is variously received." A message for money is expected tomorrow for the fleet that came out of the Straits. "Yesterday the House upon examination of the officers of the ordnance, had account of only six hundred muskets fixed in the Tower; other stores in like proportion. It is said great quantities of arms have within these last twelve months been delivered out of the Tower, to whom, yet appeares not. There is jelousy becaus the train of artillery designed for the land army in Flanders, with all marching equipage is shipped to Portsmouth where Colonel George Ley, the Duke's servant, is governor."

[The Same to the Same.]

[16]79, May 20—It grows hot and sickly here yet business hangs heavy. "The dispute concerning the Bishop's voting in the case of the validity of the Earl of Danby's pardon is not yet determined. It is not improbable that affair may end in a bill of banishment and confiscation with a declaration against the validity of pardons after impeachment, so that next week the Popish Lords may come to tryal. The frequent resort of late to them in the Tower was yesterday forbid by order from the Lords."

[Lady Harley] to Sir Edward Harley, at the Parliament door.

[16]79, May 20—I asked the "schoolers" whether they would rather come down at Whitsuntide or stay till you were at home. They would rather come when you are here which will be hunting time too, but they considered they would then lose much time, so you are to resolve when they must come and not "their stepmother."

[Sir Edward Harley] to [Lady Harley.]

[16]79, May 24—"Public afaires are cloudy and uncertain; some few daies in likelyhood wil shew whether the Parlament be probable to dispatch any good part of the crowd of business before them."

Sir Edward Harley to his kinsman, George Karver, at Buthouse.

1679, July 19—Asking for his vote and interest for Lord Scudamore at the approaching election. *Signed.*

THOMAS CONINGSBY TO SIR EDWARD HARLEY, at Brampton.

[1679,] July 26—Promising him his vote and interest.

HEREFORD.

1679, September 11—Disbursements at the election. Includes payments to drummers, trumpeters, ringers, and the city band and for making pasties, for three hundred lbs. of beef, twenty-six dozen of cider and six lbs. of tobacco.

N. STEPHENS to his uncle, SIR EDWARD HARLEY, at Brampton.

[16]79, November 29. London—Last Thursday night the Duke of Monmouth came unexpectedly here. I do not hear that he has yet kissed the King's hand. Last night several bonfires were made in the City.

The EARL OF CONWAY to his cousin, SIR EDWARD HARLEY.

1679, December 4. Ragley—I wish my cousin Popham would buy Sir Thomas Overbury's seat by Moreton-in-the-Marsh. I was speaking of it lately to Lord Brooke who says Sir Thomas would fain sell it and he believes he could bring him down as low as any man, but he will hold it dear because it is a very fine seat.

Sir William Temple has published an infallible cure for the gout by burning it with an Indian stuff called *Moxa*. I think to go next week to Littlecot. If Parliament sits in January, I shall be going to London the 22nd and shall be alone and should be very glad of your company. *Signed.*

The EARL OF CLARE to SIR EDWARD HARLEY, at Brampton.

1679, December 20. Drury Lane—I should have written before but I forgot how to direct my letter, though as to my business it should be time enough, "no boys going to schoole these approaching holydays, as they call them." What troubles me is that Lord Wharton told me Mr. Birch is very full, and and from another I heard no chamber was to be had without three beds in a room; many of the scholars "lay together, which I like not and would willingly have one apart for them, my two boys in one bed and their man in another. By having such numbers together in one chamber inconveniencies may happen." Will, the eldest of the two is near sixteen and not forward in his learning. I wish he could be in some place where he could be looked after a little better than ordinarily at least for a year, to redeem his misspent time; and I fancy it would be feasible if his tutor had discretion enough to conceal his want of learning till he recovers what he has lost. I am told of a place which by description I approve of, nor can I make any exception to it "but that it is within three miles of this scurvy towne, else I believe they might both doe well there, but I cannot consent to have them so neere it, so you see in what a plunge I am in." *Signed. Signet.*

The SAME to the SAME.

1679[80], January 3. Drury Lane—On the same subject as the preceding letter, and asking for particulars of Mr. Birch's school. *Signed. Signet.*

E[DITH], LADY H[ARLEY] to SIR EDWARD HARLEY, at Brampton.

1680, March 30—Complaining of the loss of house linen and other articles and especially a "Devenshire whittell."

The EARL OF CONWAY to SIR EDWARD HARLEY, at Brampton.

1680. April 10. London—Since I came to town I find my cousin Popham's relations are very anxious he should buy Sir Thomas Overbury's estate.

At my first coming here I heard great noise of a plot in Ireland. The King was desired to come from Newmarket and the post into Ireland was stopped till Thursday last; but since that time I find it has all grown cold. Our present cabal of governors are all to pieces among themselves and they cannot agree who is wisest or most in favour. I believe the Lord Chancellor will not stay long in his station. I was with my Lord Danby on Thursday. He has had a great fit of sickness and I found him on a milk diet. He told me all his study was for patience, which he had attained in a great degree. I was better pleased to be in the house of mourning than in any other place of joy or mirth. The Duke is his great enemy I fear, and therefore it is not strange that some who were his persecutors have complimented him. I have also found great discourse of a Parliament in Ireland, but for my own part I do not believe it, and if there be any I am sure I do not intend to be at it.

——— to SIR EDWARD HARLEY.

[16]80, April 13—The Jesuits and .Dominicans in Ireland in consultation agreed upon a massacre in the two Kingdoms of England and Ireland; but when they came to debate the *modus*, the Jesuits were for foreigners to be called in for their assistance, but the Dominicans were against it, so that in this it pleased God to divide their councils; whereupon some of the Dominicans came hither and discovered the whole matter, and a considerable number of apprentices, many of whom were servants to papists, were directed by papists of no ordinary quality to be in arms upon a day appointed "under the notion of burning the rump, meaninge thereby the remainder of the Citty." *Signet.*

—— to ——

1680, May 22—Yesterday Lord Stafford coming to the King's Bench bar upon *Habeas Corpus*, the Chief Justice told him they could not bail him but he must be remanded; and he must thank the Lords, for they had made an order that an impeachment was not discharged either by prorogation or dissolution. And they as members of that House are bound to take notice of their orders. Yesterday Lemair was tried upon the indictment against him for conspiring against the Duke of Buckingham. The evidence was very foul against him and reflected extremely upon other persons, so much so that the Court was not willing to hear more of the evidence, but said the matter was plain and the jury must find him guilty.

The Earl of Conway to Sir Edward Harley, at Brampton.

[16]80, June 7—I am glad you have concluded with Sir Thomas Overbury, and I think you have made a very good bargain.

Thomas Coningsby to Sir Edward Harley.

1680, June 9—I acquainted the Deputy Lieutenants with the reasons which prevented you from being present at the muster.

[Sir Edward Harley] to Charles Porter.

1680, July 2—Informing him that he should not take advantage of Privilege of Parliament to delay or avoid the suit in Chancery brought against him concerning his sister's portion. *Copy.*

Sir Edward Harley to Lady Harley.

[16]80, July 6—Monsieur Foubert, who for his religion was driven out of France, has set up an Academy near the Haymarket for riding, fencing, dancing, handling arms, and mathematics. He is greatly commended and has divers persons of quality. I was with him and like him very well so that if you dislike not I would have Robin spend some time there.

M. Lady Fitzjames to her sister [Lady Harley].

[16]80, October 2—I have great reason to think my change is near "which oh that God wolde prepare me for and give me some foretastes that may make me wilinge to leave this vaine world. I am ashamed to tell you how dreadful death apeeres to me."

Dr. Ridgeley is in town, I went to him and gave him a fee, but he sent me a letter and my fee in it and he will not "come at me" so I am constrained to make use of Dr. Cox but find no good yet.

I repent I did not go to Mr. Baxter's that I might have the benefit of his prayers, which I cannot have here.

Sir Edward Harley to Lady Harley, at Brampton.

[16]80, October 23. King Street Bloomsbury—On Wednesday son and daughter Popham were fetched from Wycombe to Woburn were Mr. William Wharton lies very ill. I shall be glad to hear how sister Harley is.

Since the Duke of York's departure there is little news. Until all the oaths and test against Popery be dispatched not any business can be entertained.

[The Same] to [the Same].

[16]80, October 26—Sister Bromfield and Bab resolve to go hence on Thursday week, and from Worcester to take Redding's coach, which carried us, to bring them to Brampton. I have not been very "currant" these two or three days. Dr. Woodroffe lies very weak with the fever, which has been very mortal here.

[Lady Harley] to Sir Edward Harley, at Mrs. Bromfield's house in King Street, Bloomsbury.

[16]80, October 26—People greatly rejoice at the King's speech. I pray God give a good issue to the session. Many have begun hopefully which have produced nothing.

Sir Edward Harley to Lady Harley.

[16]80, October 30. King Street—Things go on calmly. There is no news yet of the Duke of York's landing in Scotland nor likelihood of kind general reception.

Paul Foley to Sir Edward Harley.

1680, November 18. Stoke Court—On religious topics. *Signet.*

James Exton and others to Sir Edward Harley and the other representatives in Parliament of Herefordshire.

1680, November 22—Petition from "several persons in this county, commonly called Quakers, in number about five and twenty" who have been proceeded against upon the Act made against Popish recusants, whereby two thirds of their lands have been brought under sequestration.

Peter Smyth to Sir Edward Harley, at the House of Commons.

1680, November 27. Belvoir Castle—Concerning the amendment of the highways between Herefordshire and London, particularly at Burlep Hill and Saint John's Bridge, both which places might be improved as Ludgate Hill was by making the ascent longer and more uniform.

E. Beale to Lady Harley.

[16]80, November 27—Concerning proposals for a marriage between her daughter and Mr. Partherick of Cambridgeshire.

E. Cholmeley to Lady Harley.

[16]80, December 7—Lord Stafford was this day, after a week's trial, sentenced. Fifty-four Lords found him guilty and thirty two were for clearing him or banishing him and confiscating his goods, either of which seems strange considering how plainly things were proved all along. His friends had reason to own he had a fair trial, though I had not the curiosity to be at it. I have been all this afternoon with Lady Fitzjames who is now pretty well. I hope her melancholy apprehension is the greatest part of her distemper.

Lady Harley to Sir Edward Harley.

[16]80, [December] 17. Kinsham — I am now at the house of mourning. I hope it may make me prepare more seriously for the great

change which our good sister Harley draws near. My brother sent for me on Wednesday and I came hither yesterday with difficulty, the horse and footways being more slippery than ever I remember. "I doubt not what is seen heere is so withe you, it is the most terrible comet I ever saw. The Lord fitt us for whatever he is bringing on the earthe."

[Sir Edward Harley] to [Lady Harley.]

[16]80, December 21—Yours from Kinsham made me very sad. I sent this week four bottles of Barnet water for my sister to take if she be continued unto us. I have not yet seen the comet. All say it is a terrible appearance. It is to me apprehension the more that so many contemn it. It is much talked of that the Dauphin of France is sick past hope of recovery, also that the Duke of York's entertainment in Scotland is so little pleasing that he is removing.

[The Same] to [the Same.]

[16]80, December 25—Your letter yesterday brought me sad but not unexpected tidings. I have sent you for Robin's ague an ounce of the Indian bark, which if reduced to fine powder is called the Jesuit's powder. It is generally used here and approved.

"I desire you wil put yourself in mourning for my good sister."

[The Same] to [the Same.]

[16]80, December 28—What you hear of stories of foreign money and some answerable resolutions, I conceive to be groundless. Some fancy a likelihood of happy closure between the King and Parliament

[Lady Harley] to [Sir Edward Harley.]

[16]80[–1], January 7—Cousin Reed and his son went hence this morning. I am glad he said nothing of the old business either to sister Bromfield or to me.

Your continuance or dissolution is likely now to depend on whether you will or will not give money.

[A. Stephens] to her cousin, Abigail Harley, at Brampton.

1680–1, February 5—A new mistress is spoken of for the King. Her name is Lawson. She lives with the old Duke of Richmond, who, it is said, spares no pains to advancé her. I chanced to see her lately in a shop. Methinks she is handsome. She is another papist, but I give not much credit to this, for so little truth is found in anything. If it be so it is thought it is the way to bring the Duke of Buckingham into favour. The King is taking away two dishes from his table, but yet I hear of a new game of cards at Court that he usually ventures two or three hundred guineas a night at.

It was reported that honours were to be conferred on Sir Stephen Fox, Mr. Hyde, and others; but nothing is now said about it. A world of news is daily cried about Ireland. Indeed they are under deadly apprehension, there being so great a party of papists.

HEREFORDSHIRE.

1680[-1], February 23—Charges at the election of Viscount Scudamore and Sir Edward Harley for Herefordshire. Total 103*l.* 19*s.* 6*d.*

[SIR EDWARD HARLEY [to] LADY HARLEY.]

[16]80[-1], March 19. Oxford — We arrived here to-day about three. There is not any news, only the King arrived last night.

[The SAME] to [the SAME.]

[16]80[-1], March 22. Oxford—On Monday the House of Commons assembled in the Convocation House, the Divinity School serving for a Committee Chamber. The House of Lords assembled in the Astronomy School.

SIR EDWARD HARLEY to LADY HARLEY.

[16]81, March 26—This day with extraordinary calm temper was debated the expedients concerning a Popish successor. All that could be said was invited and heard. Not any thing being proposed of any probable security the Bill of Exclusion was resolved. It is confidently thought the Parliament will be prorogued on Monday. *Signet.*

—— to ——

1681, May 30. "Lix[a]"—Giving particulars of the drowning of Thomas Harley in the harbour of Venice and entering into details of the state of religion in Portugal and of the dangers to their faith incurred by young Englishmen sent to travel before "they are come to a maturity of judgment, especially into Popish countryes." *Four pages, imperfect.*

SIR EDWARD HARLEY to his son, ROBERT HARLEY, in King Street, Bloomsbury.

[16]81, June 10. Brampton—I have not been so afflicted with wind in my head as before you went. Mr. R[eed] yesterday made the proposition you have formerly heard of.

N. STEPHENS to his uncle, SIR EDWARD HARLEY, at Brampton.

[16]81, June 14. London—Announcing his intention of going to Holland with Mr. Parker, secretary to the Bishop of London; and also reporting the ill behaviour of his brother Cholmeley. *Signet.*

[SIR EDWARD HARLEY] to ROBERT HARLEY.

[16]81, July 5—Wait on Baron Gregory before he goes the circuit, also upon Sir John Hoskyns whose house is near your aunt's, in Little Queen Street. I would have you go on the first opportunity to Mr. Morton's at Newington, where I think of placing your brother Ned, to give me an account of the circumstances of the place.

MAJOR RICHARD HOPTON to his cousin, SIR EDWARD HARLEY.

1681, July 6. Kington—Concerning Mr. Hunt who was under arrest and had been worked out of his estate by Mr. Rudd.

[SIR EDWARD HARLEY] to ROBERT HARLEY

[16]81, July 15—I send three dozen "red strake" cider and half a buck, in pots, for Mr. Foubert's lady. I hope you will not be pressed to remove from town by the infection increasing.

The SAME to the SAME.

1681, August 2—If any of the French protestant exiles will plant themselves here, they may have very convenient ground to build upon. Materials will be reasonable, and no more, if they build, will be expected, than the present ground rent. They may have convenience for any trade. Propose this when you have an opportunity.

RICHARD REED to SIR EDWARD HARLEY.

[16]81, August 13—Concerning the proposed marriage between his son and Sir Edward Harley's daughter.

[SIR EDWARD HARLEY] to ROBERT HARLEY, at the French Academy in Sherwood Street near Piccadilly.

1681, August 19—"What you mentioned formerly concerning Du Veil the Jewish convert I wil to you answer as P. du Moulin concerning fugitives from monasteries 'Trust them if hair grow on the palmes.' Notwithstanding, kindnes ought to be shewed to all."

As for the French protestant exiles, you may propose that convenient land be given them to build upon for any reasonable term and encouragement of their trade. If there be real necessity and that it be not in danger of "imbesseling" you may cail to Mr Fisher for 5*l.* to distribute to them. If the diseases continue so high as the last bill I would have you come down for a month till the season be more cool and healthy.

RICHARD REED to SIR EDWARD HARLEY, at Brampton.

[16]81, August 23—Asking him to give a final answer whether the negotiations for the marriage should proceed or not.

THOMAS CONINGSBY to SIR EDWARD HARLEY.

1681, August 27—I have been to wait upon your most sober son. Mr. Foubert gives him so good a character that I believe no young man in England ever had a better. *Signet.*

ARTHUR COOPER to ROBERT HARLEY, at Mr. Foubert's.

1681, August 28. Dublin—Enquiring after all his friends and comrades at the Academy.

JOSHUA BARNETT to SIR EDWARD HARLEY.

[16]81, October 7. Hombridge—Thanking him for his kindness to his sons and particularly for his care of his second son who lately "by reading of some corrupt and popish authors hath staggered and been unsettled as to his religion."

JOHN GRENVILLE to ROBERT HARLEY, at the French Academy, Sherard Street, Westminster.

1681, November--Excusing himself for not having written, and asking him to write to Rue de Molin-avant, Poitiers. *Signet.*

HENRY DE FOUBERT to [ROBERT HARLEY].

1681, November 29. London—Enclosing the preceding letter and asking him to let them know if he was not coming back to the Academy as they were so full that they had no rooms to spare.

A. STEPHENS to ABIGAIL HARLEY, at Brampton.

1681–2, February 1. Chavenage—There has been great stirs in searching for coiners, for of that sort of cattle it seems our country does abound. My cousin Smyth of Stonehouse was the first that discovered it, and the most substantial men in Cirencester are found guilty of it; and now people stick not to say the same of some in these parts of far greater quality.

The SAME to the SAME.

[16]81[–2], February 26—My cousin Paget's worthy husband died yesterday week, and Wednesday last Baron Bertie died having but three or four days' illness, and the doctor said he had only a cold. He has left no will. *Signet.*

The SAME to the SAME.

[16[81]–2], March 12—Cousin B. Beale's wedding was last Wednesday. It was very private though good store of company was there at night. Yesterday were the great doings. There was a great dinner and a great deal of company. "The bride seemed very well pleased and was mighty neat and fine. She has a very fine poynt coyfe and cornet, cost 22*l.*, and as good shape and sleeves. A white satin peticote laced with rich gold and silver, and another peticote flowered rich with gold and silver. Her gowne is black satin, raeced. Her grandmother has presented her with a large silver cupp, her aunt Palmer with a tea pot as large as I have seen, and her unkle Hunt the merchant, since her marrying, has given her a hundred guineas, a very fine pair of salvers and 20*l.* towards plate. Her mother put 20*l.* more to it, [so] that her table plate is very handsome. The bridegroom's is a fine jewell, almost as long again as my cousin Hadlye's but not soe good stones."

Fitz Harris has lately discovered more to the Council, but none yet know the particulars; only they say it concerns the Duke and Duchess of Modena and Monticuculi. *Signet.*

[Abigail, Lady Harley.]

[16]82, April 16—A series of prayers of different dates. The first bearing the above date and the last being dated April 20, [16]88.

Edward Harley to his father, Sir Edward Harley.

[16]82, April 22. King Street—Giving an account of his cousin Cholmeley Stephens's misbehaviour.

[Robert Harley] to [Sir Edward Harley?]

[16]82, May 2—Yesterday my brother Ned brought the news of my cousin Robin's death.

Peter Smyth to Sir Edward Harley, at Brampton.

1682, May 4. Belvoir Castle—Concerning the improvements he was making for the Earl of Rutland in his park.

A. Stephens to her cousin, Abigail Harley, at Brampton.

1682, May 20. Chavenage—Condoling with her on the death of her cousin Thomas Harley, and hoping that the small-pox would go no further, or that if Mrs. Popham did take it she would get through it well. *Signet.*

[Lady Harley] to Sir Edward Harley, at Mrs. Bromfield's house in King Street.

[16]82, July 12—Nat Stephens tells me that in France they counted twelve months enough to perfect all that is learnt in the Academy. I hope Robin does not lose his time.

Abigail Harley to her father, Sir Edward Harley.

1682, July 18 Brampton—Informing him that a horrid murder had been committed near Ludlow by a young man who had struck an old man and trod upon him till he died.

Abigail, Lady Harley, to Sir Edward Harley.

[16]82 July 19—A "crayegownnorum" gave the nosegay and music this day to the ladies in the bath, which I think is a story worth telling.

Your bathing linen is come. "I intend to take the low rom you had befor to sweat in."

A. Step[hens] to Abigail Harley, at Brampton.

1682, August 7. Chavenage—Ambrose met me at the Bath where I stayed got two days with sister Pack, and very luckily got lodgings in the same house where my aunt is, and we were entertained at bed and

board by her for I lay with cousin Martha. My mother once thought of my staying to use the Bath for some little time, but would not let me stay above a week which signifies little, but thank [God] I want it not, and was willing to come home to have my sisters' company, for they design going next week. The Bath is pretty full and much more company expected, Lord Chancellor and others, but the "Garland" frightens many of the gentlemen from the gallery as well as Bath, the ladies not sticking to send it to them there and sometimes to their lodgings.

JAMES STANLEY, to his "father," SIR EDWARD HARLEY.

1682, October 5. Tothill Street—A letter of good wishes. *Signet*

CHARLES PELHAM to his kinsman, SIR EDWARD HARLEY.

1682, October 14. Brocklesby—I cannot but acknowledge your great kindness in making this proposal, which though I cannot at present embrace, knowing there hath been one propounded to her, which I know not how far it hath proceeded, my daughter being at present at a great distance from me, yet shall very much acknowledge this favour, and after I have acquainted my daughter, I shall give you an account and shall then desire a particular account of his fortune from yourself, which will be much relied on.

PAUL FOLEY to [SIR EDWARD HARLEY].

1682, November 30—On Friday night last week young H. Glover the only son of my uncle was killed in Covent Garden in a duel with one Leshly. His father only left London the day before, and almost as soon as he got to Old Swinford the said news overtook him. It is said that the young man was at Groom Porter's the night before where he won about 300*l.* and quarrelled with Leshly, who is now in custody, about one Mrs. Wall. His father would never believe me when I told him what his son was, but of late, since his daughter's marriage to Nourse Yates, old Thomas Nourse's heir, has carried it very highly.

[CHARLES] PELHAM to his kinsman, SIR EDWARD HARLEY.

1682, December 9—I have heard from my daughter and am satisfied she is in no treaty at present. I am an absolute stranger to your nephew's fortune but I question not I shall have a clear understanding from you. My daughter's fortune is 8,000*l.*; 3,000*l.* to be raised upon marriage and the rest paid at the rate of 750*l.* a year.

SIR EDWARD HARLEY to DR. RIDGLEY.

1682, December 12. Brampton—Consulting him concerning the pains in the head and "vertiginious fitts" from which he has been suffering since his fortieth year, and mentioning that he has always found the use of senna, rhubarb, tartar, pearl, crabs eyes, and coral, agreeable. *Signed.*

[Sir Edward Harley] to Robert Harley, at Mr. Foubert's Academy in Sherwood Street.

[16]82, December 12—Send when you intend to come out. If your furniture be not disposed of, your mother thinks it would be best to keep it for your own or your brother's use.

N. Stephens to his uncle, Sir Edward Harley.

[16]82, December 13. Chavenage — Concerning the proposed marriage between himself [and the daughter of Charles Pelham]. *Signet.*

Edmund Nicholas to Robert Harley.

1682–3, January 9. Sherwood Street—"The academy stands where it did, but seems only like a sodome that you have left for fear of a punisment on yourselfe. I hope my friend John is not made a landmarke with gazing after us, tho' I hope wee may escape, having been decimated, though I am sory it fell where it did on poor Sam Fenwick who was decently put under ground at the parish church of St. Martin's-in-the-Fields the last day of the year, which has made some small amendment though not effected a thorough reformation, which Mr. Foubert perceiving held forth in the dining hall and told us" we most miserable academists had been guilty of many disorders of late and that very good friends of his had told him of the looseness of his academy. Jason lives as he used, contriving lewdness five days in the week and afraid to put it in execution the other two, for I believe he sins as much in thought as all we in word and deed.

Sir E. H[arley] to his cousin, C. Pelham.

[16]82[–3], February 15. Brampton—Giving particulars of his nephew's [Stephens] estate, which amounted to 1,200*l.* a year without charges except his mother's jointure of 380*l.* a year. Any portion received with his wife to be employed in the purchase of an addition to his estate. *Copy.*

A. Stephens to her cousin, Abigail Harley, at Brampton.

[16]83, April 12. Chavenage—Lord Manchester is lately dead. His daughter Lady Suffolk makes one of the rarest wives that ever I heard of, for her lord for the most part with the gout and three score and six years old, is confined greatly to his chamber. She never stirs from him and admits very few visits if he be not so well as to see them.

The Earl of Conway to his cousin, Sir Edward Harley.

1683, May 5. Ragley—My cousin Seymour who has laid out more money in building than I have, has taken Mr. Halbert with him to Bradley. I perceive he likes my model better than his own, and will alter as much of his design as it will bear. This is all the reward of a builder, to have his work approved, though I can challenge no more share of it than the present Master of the Horse to the Duke doth in the commendation which the King gives him, by saying that when the

Duke had a Master of the Horse who understood it very well, he was the worst horsed of any man in England; but now he hath one that understands a horse no more than a cow, he is the best horsed of any man in the kingdom. This is exactly applicable to my skill. I wish may be to my success in building.

A. STEP[HENS] to her cousin, ABIGAIL HARLEY, at Brampton.

1683, June 13, Chaven[age]—Lord Salisbury's death is doubtless a great loss to the nation, for the world does not now produce many such brave men of his rank, but to his family it is a severe blow; it is very sad for a mother and father to be taken in so short a time where so many children are left. He has left his five daughters ten thousand [pounds] a piece. *Signet.*

HENRY DETHICK, Richmond Herald, and GREGORY KING, Rouge Dragon to the BAILIFF of the Hundred of Wigmore.

1683, June 27—Summons to warn the Baronets, Knights, Esquires and gentlemen whose names were within-written to appear before them at the Talbot in Wigmore on the 18th September and to bring with them such arms and crests as they use and bear with their pedigrees and descents and such other evidence as might justify the same.

K. BROMFIELD to her brother [-in-law], SIR EDWARD HARLEY, at Brampton.

1683, July 28—They talk now of thirty or forty ladies in the plot. There is some regret "that Lady Ann is to be married to Prince George for there are thoughts she should have the King of France. The marriage is still defered, but none knows whether it is on that account, but most certaine it is that that he is a widdower, newly fallen, and would be glad of such pretensions to England." *Signet.*

[THOMAS HARLEY] to his brother, SIR EDWARD HARLEY.

[16]83, August 13—Excusing himself from attending the Court at Wigmore.

N. STEPHENS to his cousin, ROBERT HARLEY.

[16]83, August 25. Essington—"Wee hear my Lord Conway is dead and hath given his estate to Mr. Seymour's son by this lady. I thinke in honour and justice it ought to have bin disposed to other relations."

A. STEPHENS to her cousin, ABIGAIL HARLEY, at Brampton.

1683, September 12. Shellingford—"We came here a Saturday, found my Lady Archer here; left little company at the Wells, the chief is Sir William Farmer and his Lady. A good many Papists were there and appear mighty brisk and jocund, as they have reason to be. People live very merry unless it were ourselves, for I could never get my sister to stir out to see the ladies dance."

FRANCIS GWYN to SIR EDWARD HARLEY.

1683, September 18. London—Excusing himself for not having sent an announcement of the death of Lord Conway or of the date of his funeral.

The BAILIFF of the Hundred of Wigmore to SIR EDWARD HARLEY.

1683, September 18—Summons to appear before the officers of arms in order to register his descents and arms. *Printed.*

HEREFORDSHIRE.

1683, September 8—A list of Herefordshire gentlemen summoned to appear before the herald.

SIR EDWARD HARLEY to his brother, THOMAS HARLEY.

1683, October 10—Grant of the office of chief steward of the honour of Wigmore. *Signed. Signet.*

G. ST. CLARE to [ROBERT HARLEY?]

[16]83, October 12—Your cousin Mr. Kyrle has carried himself very well, and minded his business. "Now wee are forced to break up and I to leave the place, by the Spiritual Court." At Christmas I am to remove to Hackney, where I hope to be less tossed. I have been invited to continue there the education of seven or eight of my number, "and if Mr. Kyrle goe along with me, he shall be used as a gentleman and kept to his business."

[SIR EDWARD HARLEY] to THOMAS HARLEY, at Downton.

[16]83, October 12—Enclosing the grant of the 10th October last.

E[DITH], LADY HARLEY to SIR EDWARD HARLEY.

[16]83, November 17—Informing him that a gentleman of good worth and with above 1,000*l.* a year was anxious to marry her and that Sir Robert Harley's debts were the only impediment, as the gentleman was afraid that he would have to undertake them if he married her.

N. STEPHENS to his uncle, SIR EDWARD HARLEY.

1683, November 20—I desire that you would favour me with a letter or two to some merchants of your acquaintance that they might promote my brother's interest for going to the East Indies. I fear it may be a difficult matter for one who has no interest in the Committee of the Company. We want him to go as a factor to Bengal, or if that cannot be obtained, then a writers place.

We have lately heard that the Dutch have had a heavy loss at sea off the Texel in a storm. One English ship was lost which had on board a great deal of money in pieces of eight, sent from hence to fetch them and then to carry them to Scanderoon.

PAUL FOLEY to SIR EDWARD [HARLEY].

1683, December 7—On business. *Signet.*

——— to ROBERT HARLEY, at Brampton.

1683–4, February 16. London—Having met with a copy of the names of the securities of the several Lords bailed on Tuesday last I thought it considerable enough to be enclosed (vizt.)

For the Earl of Danby	Earl of Powis.
Duke of Somerset	Duke of Norfolk.
Duke of Albemarle	Duke of Beaufort.
Earl of Oxford	Earl of Pembroke.
Earl of Chesterfield	Earl of Peterborough.
Lord Arundell	Lord Bellasis.
Earl of Dorset	Earl of Westmorland.
Earl of Scarsdale	Lord Falconbridge.
Earl of Bath	Earl of Ailesbury.
Earl of Clarendon	Sir John Talbot.

for the Earl of Tyrone the Earl of Roscommon, Earl of Mount Alexander, Earl of Carlingford, Lord Annesley.

On Wednesday last in the afternoon the Earl of Danby waited upon His Majesty and His Royal Highness, and was well received, being complimented by most of the nobility, His Majesty approving of his intentions to retire into the country some time for his health.

The town of Bedford on Wednesday last surrendered their charter into the hands of His Majesty.

Mr. Bridges, Gentleman of the Bedchamber, who married the Countess of Shrewsbury is suspended his place for speaking words tending that Colonel Sidney had not a fair trial. Thursday the trial came on between the King and Sir Samuel Barnardiston upon information at Guildhall by *nisi prius* for maliciously writing and dispersing divers letters of false news just after the surrender of the Duke of Monmouth, directed to one Major Skippar, that there was now an end of the sham plot, that the matters contained in the Gazette relating to the Duke of Monmouth's confession was false, that they at Court were crestfallen, that Sir George would not last long, and would prove that the Lord Russell had hard measure, that a party had prevailed to get Sidney executed, with other matters of the like tendency, three of which letters it was proved he confessed, one of his servants deposed a fourth to be his handwriting; in fine the Lord Chief Justice gave a very sharp charge to the jury, that no words could possibly be more malicious, that though it was not treason yet bordered thereon, that it was only for them to find guilty or not, since they would take care for proportionable punishment as being a leading man; and the jury after going out in a little time returned and brought him in guilty, but sentence will not be given till next term.

The Lord Lumley who I formerly mentioned to have order from His Majesty to retire out of Whitehall is since displaced from being Master of the Horse to the Queen, and the Lord Ferrers advanced thereto.

Sir Nathaniel Johnson is made Governor of the Leeward Islands, in the room of Sir [William] Stapleton, and will depart to his government in some few months.

The Duchess of Portsmouth is made Duchess of Aubigny in France, and her son the Duke of Richmond to succeed as Duke of that title.

Mr. Braden convicted on account of pretending to prove the Earl of Essex did not cut his own throat and thereupon committed to the King's Bench is again admitted to bail.

Colonel Mildmay has given at a Judge's Chamber 1,000*l.* recognizance and 500*l.* two securities to be of good behaviour. Thursday last the Earl of Macclesfield arrested Sir Richard Gravener of Cheshire in an action of *scandalum magnatum*, the foreman of the Grand Jury who presented his Lordship as dangerous to the government, and will do the same to the rest of the jury. Sir Richard giving 2,000*l.* bail is since at liberty, but his Lordship intends to declare for 50,000*l.* damages.

We do have account that on Saturday last the ship *President*, Captain Hyde commander, was cast away near Helston in Cornwall, all the men save two sailors lost together with the value of above 80,000*l.* to the East India Company.

—— to Robert Harley, at Brampton.

1684, April 19. London—Wednesday last being the last of the term the customary proceedings were made as to appearances, and motions. The great cause between the Lady Ivey and Esquire Neale for 4,000*l.* *per annum* is ordered to be on Monday come fortnight. Alderman Wright of Oxford appearing upon recognizance, an information was exhibited against him for writing divers seditious libels against the government, and 10,000*l.* recognizance himself and 5,000*l.* each four sureties required of him, which not being prepared with he was committed to the King's Bench prison. The *postea* of the conviction of Sir Samuel Barnardiston being not returned from out of the city where he was tried no proceed was had upon him. Colonel Mildmay's appearance was recorded, likewise Bradon and Chaldron, and divers other matters of less remark were transacted which I purposely omit.

On Wednesday last was held a great Council at Hampton Court where it is said was debated the affair of farming His Majesty's revenues of England and Ireland, some peers and others offering to give two millions per annum for the same.

Mr. Godolphin on Sunday night last received the seals of Secretary of State, which was his first entry upon that office in the room of Sir Leoline Jenkins.

One of the vessels which brought over the guns and other ammunition from Tangier was unhappily cast away and the greatest part of her lading lost.

The Duke of Monmouth is now certainly in Flanders appearing publicly at Brussels, who if report may be credited has His Majesty's leave to go into that service, which the Marquess de Grana wrote into England to solicit for before he would receive him according to his quality.

Wednesday last a letter came from Mr. Ryeaut the English Consul at Algiers dated the 23rd of March which gives an account of that government's agreeing a peace with the French king, that he should restore as many Moorish slaves as they had away of their own nation, and that the remainder the French were to buy at the market price; that the damages sustained on both sides should be balanced, with some other articles not very honourable for France.

Mr. Edmund Halley so often mentioned in the Gazette to be missing with 100*l.* reward to those that should bring tidings of him whether living or dead, is now found drowned in the river Medway by

Rochester, naked save only his stockings and shoes, very much bruised, which admits of various interpretations.

Yesterday several motions were made in the King's Bench the most material were that no appearance be entered to the *quo warranto* brought against the City of York unless under their common seal which was granted. Alderman Wright of Oxford moved by counsel that by rule he might be brought from the King's Bench and give such security as was expected of him which was likewise assented to. Then special bail was moved for by the Lord Macclesfield's counsel upon his action of *scandalum magnatum* brought against Sir Thomas Gravener, foreman of the Grand Jury, who presented his Lordship as aiding and abetting in the late conspiracy with the Duke of Monmouth, but the Court only ordered common bail. Mr. Attorney moved for an *habeas corpus* to bring up Mr. Holloway from Newgate on Monday, which was granted. This day Sir Samuel Barnardiston received sentence at the Court of King's Bench to pay 10,000*l.* to the King, and was committed to the King's Bench prison.

A. Stephens to her cousin, Abigail Harley, at Brampton.

[16]84, May 3. Essex Street—The Court at Windsor makes the town very dull. Several great matches are talked on, but few, as I hear, concluded. It is certain that the Attorney's daughter is contracted to Mr. Pitts, and that Lord Manchester makes court to Sir John Cutler's daughter, but it is said he will not prevail as the King is about her for Lord St. Albans. Lady Mary Compton with the addition of her sister's fortune makes her at present very considerable. The Jury have given the Duke 100,000*l.* damages against Mr. Colt. *Signet.*

The Same to the Same.

1684, May 15. London—On Tuesday we returned from Cousin Hadley's. Barnet is an extremely pretty place, and they have made it mighty neat.

Lady Hutten has just died. About three weeks ago she came from Guernsey to lie-in at Midsummer. I saw her on Monday week. She was then a little indisposed from having eaten cream, iced, and drunk cider, the night before, but no danger was apprehended. She continued so some days but on Friday it proved to be small-pox, and last night she died. *Signet.*

E[dith], Lady Harley to Sir Edward Harley.

1684, May 31—My Lord Paget is our neighbour and often inquires after you. The place where I live is called Thorney near Iver, three miles from Uxbridge. The Bishop of Hereford can give you an account of Mr. Berenger's seat for he has been here, but not since I came.

Peter Smyth to Sir Edward Harley.

1684, June 18. Dore—Informing him that he had retired from the service of the Earl of Rutland, and enclosing a treatise on the improvement of land by the use of lime.

[Robert Harley] to Sir Edward Harley.

[16]84, June 24—I knew not when I wrote, of my uncle Palmer's death. It is said that Sir T[homas] Armstrong, at the King's Bench "would have pretended to the benefit of the Act for revision of outlawries, the year not being expired, but was better informed by the Court that it was not his case; but Sir T. insisting upon the benefit of the law was told by the grace of God he should have the law. A printed paper cryed about the streets yesterday gives this account of him, that he called for and read in the Bible in Newgate; that Dr. Tennison of St. Martin's was with him; that he owned the great lewdness of his former life; that he read al the way, as he was drawn, in the *Whole Duty of Man* until within sight of Tyburn and then seemed to pray as he did also at the place. It is also said a paper was delivered by him to the sheriffe. His quarters are brought to Newgate."

I send herewith a copy of a letter for brother Nat.

Copy of letter enclosed "For Mr. Harley living at Mr. Trencher's a merchant's house in Aldermanbury."

R. H[arley] to Lady Harley, at Esquire Berenger's.

[16]84, June 24. King Street—On business. *Draft.*

[Sir Edward Harley] to Robert Harley, in King Street.

[16]84, June 27—Both the brothers at Stoke seem satisfied with the estate and likely to agree to my terms. "Hitherto it hath been carried on by very gracious footsteps and I trust it comes in mercy from the Lord." Acquaint your Aunt Bromfield with it. It ought yet to be kept private. Lady Berenger's agent teaches us how to live in the world. Be careful in the payment of what you have. *Signet.*

Robert Harley to Sir Edward Harley.

[16]84, June 28—I have not yet begun drinking the waters, not having procured Northampton waters. Sir T. Armstrong's quarters are set up, his head at Westminster Hall, one quarter on Temple Bar, two upon two other gates, and it is generally reported that another has been sent down to Stafford.

A. Stephens to her cousin, Abigail Harley, at Brampton.

1684, July 3. Whitby—We got well here last Saturday. It was so hot and dusty that we always travelled early and late; coming to so fine an inn at last does well recompense the length of the journey.

I expect daily to hear of sister Parker's being at Astrop. I hope she will benefit by the waters. This hot and dry weather makes all waters much crowded.

[Sir Edward Harley] to Robert Harley, at King Street.

[16]84, July 4—I do not approve of your brother lodging in a coffee house. I found many inconveniences by my Westminster lodging in such a like house. Endeavour for a lodging in a private house. Those about Essex buildings are in good air. This vacation may present an opportunity for a chamber to be rented if not purchased

in the Temple. I desire some good wine. You know what I like, neither hot, sharp, nor sweet. Some Canary, requisite for friends. If you could find a right sort of white wine, neither "eager nor stummed" it would do well. Forget not to wait on the Earl of C[lare] and the two ladies. Write how it is with those families.

A[BIGAIL] H[ARLEY] to her brother, ROBERT HARLEY.

[16]84, July 5—Asking him to send an alabaster or marble mortar and some china pots and cups for tea.

E[DITH], LADY HARLEY to ROBERT HARLEY.

[16]84, July 5—I am much troubled at the letter which Davis sent to Cousin Nat. I cannot help what other people do so I entreat you will not think the worse of me for it.

R. H[ARLEY] to SIR EDWARD HARLEY.

1684, July 5—In the new buildings in Essex Court is a chamber three stories high to be sold. It is ready wainscotted. It has never been sold and so the term will be longer. Mr. Barker of the Crown Office built the whole staircase. The term will be one life and two assignments, the longest term the house can grant, he asks 150*l.*, of which something will be abated.

There was a report an indictment of high treason would be preferred against Oates this sessions, but I hear nothing of it. Sixty prisoners pleaded His Majesty's pardon and were released. Four were priests and three were soldiers.

B[RILLIANA] P[OPHAM] to her brother, ROBERT HARLEY, in King Street near Southampton Square.

1684, July 7. Bourton—On private affairs.

[SIR EDWARD HARLEY] to ROBERT HARLEY.

[16]84, July 8—A chamber three pair of stairs high is very dear at 150*l.* If the conveniences for study and lodging are good you may try to bargain at a reasonable price. I wish you could procure two good stags heads for the Hall. The Hereford masons are this day come hither. I pray God bless the building.

[ROBERT HARLEY] to SIR EDWARD HARLEY.

1684, July 8—This morning Mr. Trench and his wife went to Bath. Yesterday I discoursed with him upon the Exchange, concerning my brother. He finds him always diligent and faithful, and expects next year "to send him over."

The SAME to the SAME.

1684, July 12—Tuesday night a fire broke out in the water house in York Buildings. Twelve houses were consumed. Lord Willoughby's house was blown up, furniture and all.

SIR EDWARD HARLEY to ROBERT HARLEY.

[16]84, July 15—The general expectation is of the access to Ludlow and so into Wales of the Duke of B[uckingham] and other great company. Sir H. C[oningsby] has gone, as it is said, to Chipping Norton to pay his devoirs.

A. LADY HARLEY to her son, ROBERT HARLEY.

1684, August 1—Pray send a pound or two of wax candles for your father's tobacco.

A. LADY HARLEY to SIR EDWARD HARLEY, at Bourton-on-the-Hill.

[16]84. August 10—We hear of the great splendour of the great man's equipage. The deputy and the justices consulted and agreed in sign of their great respect, and as a thing that would be well liked by the King, that they would carry up his Grace's meat. But one misliked it and refused; being earnestly pressed he said he would see him—before he would, which put a stop to all.

[SIR EDWARD HARLEY] to ROBERT HARLEY.

[16]84, August 13. Bourton—Your purpose to take the coach on Monday makes me resolve to be ready to go with you from hence to Worcester on Tuesday, where my "charet" is appointed to come.

EDWARD HARLEY to his brother, ROBERT HARLEY, at Brampton.

[16]84, September 2—Nat had another of his fits on Saturday. Aunt Bromfield wishes him to see a physician, so he intends to go to Dr. Lower. The ebb of news is as great as ever. The great discourse is what they will do with the great numbers of people summoned into "Hide Hall." Some say the oath *ex officio* or the corporation oath will be tendered, which if refused, they go to prison.

RICHARD HARLEY to his cousin, EDWARD HARLEY.

1684, October 16. Brampton—On private affairs.

[SIR EDWARD HARLEY] to [ROBERT ? HARLEY.]

[1684], November 13—Your mother and I are both troubled for Nat. It seems he is not permitted to go to London daily till very late. I doubt it is to save his master his dinner. Therefore tell Nat I will allow it to him and would have him account it to me, so that he might be allowed to go in the morning and return reasonably at night, or when the weather or health be not agreeable, that he may lodge in London. I wrote lately to Mr. Trench of Nat's coming down this winter and of his going beyond the sea next season. I hope he will not teach Nat to understand *franca lingua* in the proverb, *ben service e mal gradire.*

Mr. Woodhouse intends for London tomorrow. "Propose if you think good the match of B[rilliana] M[itchell] for his brother the "millener."

A. Stephens to her cousin, Abigail Harley, at Brampton.

1684, November 29. London—Lord Devonshire died this week and has largely provided for this Lord's children, but so tied up his hands that he has no power to sell or engage it. To this Lord's daughter he has left twenty thousand pounds. To his second son four thousand a year, the third three thousand, and the youngest the reversion of two thousand five hundred, and left a very rich widow, and after all this division this lord it is said has ten thousand a year, and the renewing leases which has not been done a great while. My mother tells me my aunt mentions somewhat concerning the ball at Court which indeed was extreme fine, and I got a peep at all the ladies and dancers, but went not in the hall, being better pleased to see and not be seen. The finery of clothes was to a great extravagance, most of the gowns six or seven pounds a yard, the gentlemen's shoulder knots forty and fifty pounds a piece. The best dancers were the Duchesses of Norfolk and Grafton, Lady Mary Tudor, Mrs. Fox, and Villars the maid of honour, but Lady Pembroke was more taken notice of than any though in a contrary way than the former ladies, but she was the most assured young woman that I saw to perform no better, though it was as well as any expected. Mr. St. John and Webb are not yet tried for Sir William Escourt, which was a very sad murder. It is said good store of money Portsmouth shall have for his pardon. *Signet.*

Paul Foley to Sir Edward Harley.

1684, December 17—Concerning the health of Thomas Harley. *Signet.*

A Tory.

1684—"The character of a Tory in answer to that of a Trimmer." "Pretended to be written by the Earl of Mulgrave."

A. Stephens to her cousin, Abigail Harley, at Brampton.

[16]85, February 12—"I suppose this sad occasion will stop your buying, all those in town and country going into the strictest mourning, the women deeper if possible than for fathers, and the men as widowers, they that have beforehand may now save money, all things being risen to a vast rate. I had bought my other clothes, and now have all the trouble and charge anew. But the disappointing of private persons is trivial when the public loss of so merciful and peaceable a prince who endured with great patience his sickness and death. Neglect of bleeding for three years was thought the occasion of the violent convulsion which took him, at first being opened no fault but fulness of blood. The body it is said will be this week privately interred in Henry the Seventh's chapel, till the chapel at Windsor be finished. London had never more sad hearts and I guess the country has the same reason. A parliament is speedily to be. The Duchess of Portsmouth is making her pack for France, it is thought designed giving her creditors the slip had not the King commanded her to pay her debts, which if report says true are not small. Great changes are now at Court. Lord Portsmouth is Master of the Horse and Constable of the Tower. Admiral Herbert preferred, Lord Rochester likely to be Treasurer, and so much is talked as it is impossible to relate unless I had more time, being so hurried to get mourning, for all people appear in it by Sunday." *Signet.*

A. Pye to her cousin, Abigail Harley, at Brampton.

[16]85, April 11. Shellingford—I rejoice at your recovery from the measles and that you are coming to town with Aunt Bromfield which should be before the coronation which will fetch many to town.

Katherine Bromfield to Sir Edward Harley, at Mr. Foley's, at Whitley.

1685. May 16—Last night I went to Mr. Baxter. He is in great trouble and was at the King's Bench this week where the Lord Chief Justice told him "there was never an honest man in England but would say he had bin long a knave, a rouge, and brought severall places more in his boock agenst him, as he being agenst the government and for sedition, and would not take the words as written, but red his meaning was still agenst the Church of England, and the same words if they ware applide to the Papists he took no notice of. He is very weake and ill but is no way dismaide with going and dying in prison, so that would his friends pay what fine soever shall be set upon him, he thincks in concience he must not accept of it, as being better to be given to the pore."

[Lady Harley] to her sister, Mrs. Bromfield, in King Street.

[16]85, May 16—Our marriage was on Thursday. There was no company. I like our daughter-in-law the better I am acquainted with her. Hitherto there has been no occasions of exceptions, but all kindness and all things are handsome and plentiful. I doubt it will be strange to a young woman to be "cubed upe" in our little house out of such a fine one. No time is yet agreed for her bringing home. I hope it will be a month. I do not know how we shall get the house in any order before then.

A. Pye to Abigail Harley, at Brampton.

[16]85, May 30—"The great discourse in town besides parliament affairs is of Lord Thomond's daughter, one of our great beauties, last Sunday fell raving mad and so continues for love of Lord Scarsdale who refuses to marry her, this is said to be the occasion. Sir William Juxon's eldest daughter owns her marriage to the King's apothecary, and Sir George Hewett's sister two days since gone away with one Captain Stapley. My Lord Spencer killed beyond sea in a duel, and Lord Clancarty lately dead of the small pox in Ireland. The King made a speech to-day for more supplies to pay his brother's debts and recruit the navy, which was no sooner heard but granted, and is to be upon wines, and vinegar, and new buildings. This is all I know and wish you pick sense so many are tattling at my elbow. This day Mr. Baxter was tried at Guildhall for his paraphrase upon the Testament and found guilty of factious reflections upon the Church and Government. My Lord Chief Justice very severe on him." *Signet.*

[Sir Edward Harley.]

1685, June 18—"I appeared at Hereford before Sir Herbert Croft, Sir John Barneby and other Justices of the Peace according to an order of summons from them requiring it, received the day before, when allso a

birding gun and two javelins—taken from mee when I was formerly disarmed by order of the Deputy Lieutenants—were again taken away by order of the Deputy Lieutenants." I was confined to Hereford not to goe away thence without leave from the Deputy Lieutenants."

July 14—"Sir Thomas Hanbury, Sir John Barneby, Mr. H. Aubrey, and Mr. H. Westfaling sent for myself, Mr. Scudamore, Kenchurch, Mr. P. Foley, Mr. R. Salwey, Mr. S. Birche, Mr. W. Gwillim of Langston, and some others and gave us liberty to goe to our houses but to apear before them again if they required. My brother Thomas Harley was summoned and apeared with mee and was confined, but being not wel in health had liberty of going home and was not in Hereford when we were discharged.

In this condition dispensed to mee by the Providence of God the tender mercies of the Lord of all beings were most graciously vouchsafed to a poor worm. First and above all I enjoyed the favor of God bestowing upon mee inward peace and qiet of mind. My health was not wors then at home; I was not aflicted with any vertiginous fit; I received great civilitye from Sir John Morgan, Sir Thomas Hanbury, Sir John Barneby, Mr. Aubrey, Westfaling, Mr. Bridges and Nours, and very particularly from Captain Edward Cornwall. It was specially ordered by God either through the miscarrying of the order sayd to be issued or some other way, that we were not carried out of our own countrey to Chepstow Castle, nor put in a gaol as some were in other counties. That no affronts were offered us by rude persons. That we had liberty of convers one with another most of the time, and during the whole confinement liberty of walking abroad and of going to church and hearing several good sermons."

July 15—"The goodnes of God brought mee in peace to my family at Bramton, where I was wellcomed by very kind language from one then there upon a visit who had formerly been differently disposed." Then follow a series of texts from the Scriptures, chiefly in thanksgiving for his deliverance.

The Same.

1685, June 28. Hereford—A series of texts from the Scriptures and meditations upon them, written during his confinement at Hereford, and suitable to his situation.

Sir Edward Harley to Robert Harley, at Whitley Court.

[16]85, July 9. Hereford—I hope in this solitude you are of some service to my good sister Foley. It is here reported my brother Foley is removed to Shrewsbury and from whence are carried to Chester Castle Mr. Hunt, Mr. Corbet, Mr. Forrest, Mr. Clive and Mr. Swinfen. Bells and bonfires last night "celebrated the news of James Scott's rout and taking, so there may be expectation of going home. Saturday the Deputy Lieutenants told the gentlemen confined here that they must not converse with one another, yet might use the liberty of the city. Your mother came Friday and returned Saturday last.

Robert Harley to his father, Sir Edward Harley, at Hereford.

[16]85, July 9—Goodier wrote word to Lord Coventry that on Monday morning at four o'clock they fell upon the rebels, took three great

guns, killed and made prisoners five hundred, among the rest the late Duke of Monmouth or at least somebody with a star upon his coat. We are not a little rejoiced at it. The great guns were heard here on Saturday week when the action was at Philip's Norton. Nobody is removed from Prestwood. If you wish me to wait upon you be pleased to send word by the bearer, though the women here are very fearful. My mother-[in-law] Foley presents you her humble service. *Signet.*

The Same to [the Same].

[16]85, July 14.—The train bands of this country are returned home as I suppose those of Herefordshire are also. We have no account of the last fight but what was in the Gazette. Thursday is appointed for the execution of the Duke of Monmouth. We hear many are daily hanged in the West. Lord Jeffreys goes that circuit. Mr. Herbert died on Monday at Ripsford. I rejoice in God's mercy to my sister [Popham] in giving her a little Lœtitia.

The Same to [the Same].

[16]85, July 18—Congratulating him on his return to Brampton.

The Duke of Monmouth.

1685, August 12. Blangy—An account of an imposture practised by the foster father and mother of the Duke of Monmouth, who died an infant, whereupon they substituted their child in his place. *French.*

E. Cholmeley to Lady Harley, at Brampton.

[16]85, August 13--I have received your letter with great satisfaction telling of Sir Edward's return, whose loyalty I knew too well to believe his confinement would be long. It appears that the same has happened in other counties to all sorts of persons, who, we hear are at liberty again. We have great cause to thank God for the late deliverance which ere this might have involved the whole nation in blood, if Monmouth's party had prevailed, who no doubt were treble the number of the King's, and conducted with that order and silence, coming on in the night as to be within musket shot at the back of ours before discovered. Sir Francis Compton was luckily upon his guard with about a hundred horse and forty dragoons, who from his house received and gave the first information to the general.

Robert Harley to Sir Edward Harley, at Brampton.

[16]85, August 18—I hear the Lord Keeper continues very weak. Lord Chief Justice Jeffreys is recovered at Tunbridge. The new raised army consists of eight regiments of horse, two of dragoons, and eleven of foot. The rendezvous to be this week on Hounslow Heath. The Paris Gazette says that the ship which brought the rebels to Lyme is got off from Bilboa and arrived at Amsterdam, and that Ferguson has been seen in Holland.

The Same to the Same.

[16]85, August 22—My wife intends for the Wells on Tuesday. Mr. Cornish is out of custody. It is said Sir Gilbert Gerrard is taken up. Lord Wharton is gone to France. Mr. G. G's son is taken in Scotland amongst the rebels. Tuesday next begins the Western circuit. It is thought that the Lady Lisle will suffer, or at least be condemned. Some say Nelthorp, taken at her house, is distracted, to which his family has been inclined. I cannot hear whether Wade is yet taken. This day is the rendezvous at Hounslow with a great deal of splendour. Humieres, the French King's envoy to congratulate here, was to see it. A triple league has been signed here this week between the crowns of England, Sweden, and Denmark, and the States General. Ruvigny is here; some have fancied he came to hinder the league and not to make a visit to Lady Russell.

Robert Harley to Sir Edward Harley, at Brampton.

[16]85, August 28. Rusthall near Tunbridge Wells—Yesterday, the first day of drinking the waters, they agreed exceedingly well. The doctor directs that the drinking should be six weeks. Sir Gilbert Gerrard is, I hear, committed to the Tower. Sir Walter Young and Mr. Duke are here and Mr. Freak, on bail.

The Same to the Same.

[16]85, September 1. King Street—I came this evening late from the Wells for business. The waters do yet agree very well. Earl Denbigh is dead and Lady Lisle condemned.

The Same to the Same.

[16]85, September 5. Tunbridge.—At the trial of Mrs. Lisle which was very tedious, lasting until one oclock in the morning, she fell asleep through age, 72. Her allegations were she knew not Nelthorp. The Court told her she was tried for harbouring Hicks. She alleged she knew him not to be a rebel. The Jury after some stay returned and told the Court some of them were not satisfied with the evidence, which they were told was as clear as the sun, and then repeated it all to them; upon which they returned her guilty and the Lord Chief Justice told her that according to the power he had received at London she should be burned the next afternoon; but upon desire he reprieved her until Wednesday when her sentence was changed to beheading which was executed that day at Winchester. When they pressed her to confess I do not hear that she made any answer. The Earl of Macclesfield has a warrant out against him. Twenty grenadiers and a captain are upon free quarters at Sir Walter Young's house, Colliton, notwithstanding the proclamation to the contrary.

The Same to the Same.

[16]85, September 12. Rusthall—On the western circuit ninety were condemned. Lady Lisle made a speech which has not yet been printed. Thursday there came out a proclamation to apprehend the Earl of Macclesfield.

The Same to the Same.

[16]85, September 15—Rumbold's quarters are brought from Scotland. It is said that at his execution he denied the business of the Rye House plot, but told them he was one in disguise upon the scaffold at the execution of King Charles the First. Holmes is executed at Lyme. One of the Hewlins is also, and the other will be. Not one is pardoned. Mr. Prideaux of the West is in the Tower. It is said Sir R. Colton is also in custody. There are little parties of the rebels in arms about Lyme and Exeter. The gaol there was broken open and about twenty prisoners escaped. They report the judges with their retinue were fired at as they passed through a lane, but without hurt; thereupon the Lord Chief Justice commanded twenty to be executed. It is now said he has the seal, but who succeeds Sir J. Churchill as Master of the Rolls I do not hear.

A. Pye to her cousin [Abigail Harley].

1685, September 17. [Chevenage]—Our county is like to be kept in very good order, for at Gloucester, Cirencester, and Tetbury, troops of the new raised forces are lately come to quarter. At Tetbury a troop of horse of fifty-five, which is not over welcome to the innkeepers, now horsemeat is so scarce. This country at present hath great people in it, the Duke of Ormond and Lord Ossory, with the Duke of Beaufort, and Lord Berkeley late come to Berkeley Castle.

Robert Harley to Sir Edward Harley.

[16]85, September 22. Tunbridge Wells—His Majesty being entertained at the Bishop of Winchester's left the Seal with him, as is supposed, until the Lord Chief Justice has finished the circuit. He has four troops of the county horse attending him in the West, which he commands as Generalissimo.

The Same to the Same.

[16]85, October 10. Halstead in Kent—I have written from Tunbridge to Brampton constantly until it pleased God to visit me with an indisposition which my wife in her hurry and fright forgot to mention. There was no physician nearer than London and though Providence cast me upon a wilderness, for such Tunbridge is at this time of year, yet his loving kindness did not fail, for my Aunt Ernly was with us and my grandmother sent every day, being nineteen miles, to see me, with such things as she thought proper. On Sunday I began to get better so that I came here on Thursday by the coach and intend on Thursday next for London. I have kept constantly yet to "strained water gruel."

Lord Jeffreys is not yet made Earl of Flint. Three hundred and fifty are already executed in the west, above eight hundred were condemned for the plantations, not one pardoned.

Robert Harley to his aunt, [Katherine] Bromfield.

[16]85, October 12. Halstead—I have been very solicitous lest you should get any illness by your troublesome journey. It was a great instance of love and kindness to me.

[Robert Harley] to [Sir Edward Harley.]

[16]85, October 24. King Street—On Saturday Mr. T. H. Junior by warrant from the King was removed to the Tower. On Monday Alderman Cornish was tried for being at Sheppard's with Lord Russell. The witnesses, Rumsey, Goodenough, and Sheppard said he was there that day but did not stay with the company. He was condemned and on Friday was hanged and quartered in Cheapside before Guildhall. It was very surprising to him and he was often times discomposed, but used most vehement asseverations to persuade his innocency. He owned he was at Sheppard's. The same day Mrs. Gaunt, above sixty, was burned at Tyburn for harbouring Burton, an outlaw, by her husband's order, who is fled, Burton being evidence against her. It is said Lord Grey accuses several, as does Goodenough and also Wade. Lord Halifax is put out of the Council. He spoke against laying aside the Test. Wade is said to be very positive against the Earl of Stamford. Cornish's estate is all gone.

The Same to [the Same.]

[16]85, October 27—An innkeeper of Shaftesbury and a captain under the Duke of Monmouth hanged himself a few days ago in Fleet Street, having been taken the day before. Ayloff and Nelthorp had execution awarded them this day. Some talk of a pardon for Ayloff. All the English women are removed from the Princess of Orange at an hour's warning, by her husband's order.

[Richard] Nelthorp to his Children.

1685, October 29. Newgate—A farewell letter. *Copy.*

[Richard] Nelthorp to his Parents, Brothers, and Sister.

1685, October 30. The Palace of Newgate—A farewell letter, specially recommending his wife and five children to their care. *Copy.*

[Richard] Nelthorp.

[1685]—A declaration of his innocence of all participation in any attempts on the King's life. *Copy.*

Robert Harley to Sir Edward Harley.

[16]85, October 31. King Street—Dr. Lowre has prescribed my wife a course of physic for six weeks. I find myself well but weak, especially my eyes. Many advise the cutting off my hair but I hope it will wear off without that. Cornish's estate is given by the King to his wife. Yesterday John Ayloff and Richard Nelthrop were hanged and quartered, the first before Inner Temple Gate, the other before Gray's Inn. Both died very composedly. Some say they both denied the Rye House plot. "Last week there arrived from Italy a Vicarius &c. His name Lirborne, some cal him Laban." Ayloff's quarters are given to his friends.

The Same to the Same.

[16]85, November 10—Yesterday the Parliament met, to whom the King spoke the enclosed. The Lords returned thanks for it. On the same day a petition of Lord Delamere was read and considered. This day the debate went high; the Earl of Devonshire and the Marquis of Halifax very hot that he should be brought up.

On Friday in the great storm several ships were damaged at Portsmouth, especially the *Royal James* and the *Coronation*.

[Edward Harley] to [Robert Harley?].

[16]85, November 10—I was yesterday with Mr. Baxter; he is much as he was wont to be. He says the old ministers are many of them dead, and the young ones that are coming up, he hears are many, but some of them in great want, to whom he has given his books.

Robert Harley to Sir Edward Harley.

[16]85, November 14—Yesterday B. M[itchell] was with me and received money of me. When she was putting her hand to receive it I discovered a ring and asked if she was married. She owned she was, to one Richard Smith a glover of York. I hear she talks very untowardly to others and says she will go to Worcester and torment her sister, but to me she was more reserved. She tells me her husband is a protestant yet but she hopes to turn him.

[The Same] to the Same.

[16]85, November 17—All churches in France, both people and ministers are scattered. The three of Charenton, M. Minard, at Amsterdam, M. Claude has a pension of 400*l.* from the Prince of Orange, and M. Allise is here.

The Same to [the Same].

[16]85, November 24—There is a good understanding between the P[rince of] O[range] and Amsterdam, which has a produced a resolution to have forty men-of-war at sea and to make their army 40,000. We are making all preparations here to have a fleet against the beginning. There are 20,000 of the Religion escaped into Switzerland; 6,000 who had been received into Geneva and Genoa and forced by threats thence, thinking to get into the Grisons country were most cut off by detachments from the garrisons of Pignerol, Cassals and other places. About 4,000 are in a wood near Fontainebleau; the dragoons from Versailles are after them. Amsterdam has given great privileges to those that come thither, as freedom from taxes. Very few come hither. M. Claude and M. Suren are writing an account of the persecution. There are many of great hopes here, designed for the ministry, in great want.

I cannot attain a good account of B. M[itchell's] marriage. Lady Townshend complains much of her ill-carriage. I cannot think her to be a P[apist], but rather of no religion. She has sometimes said she would be of a religion of her own making.

The Same to [the Same].

[16]85, December 5—This day God has added to me another year. The weakness of my eyes continues. The doctor presses cutting off my hair. I have now found out the minister that married B. M[itchell], one St. George, in the King's Bench. He says he knows not the man's name. I have not seen her lately; Lady Clinton saw her yesterday.

Lord Brandon is reprieved, which is supposed will end in a pardon. The old Duchess of Richmond died a Roman Catholic. Seventy officers are said to have their pardons for not taking the test.

Edward Harley to Sir Edward Harley.

[16]85, December 5—I hear eighty French ministers are come over of late. It is said the French King will put out an edict to command all his subjects home by a certain time, or else to proceed against them as traitors.

Robert Harley to [Sir Edward Harley].

[16]85, December 8—Several Roman Catholics are discharged at Doctor's Commons by order; and several dissenters by the Lord Bishop of London. To-morrow Mr. Hampden is to receive his trial at the Sessions. He is kept so close that no one sees him. It is reported that unruly persons are in arms in the West.

[The Same] to the Same.

1685, December 12—It is reported that some in prison for the late rebellion have broken the gaol at Taunton or elsewhere. They have been seen on the common near Chard and it is said have hanged the executioner. We hear that six regiments of English and Scotch are sent for out of Holland.

[The Same] to the Same.

[16]85, December 15—On Monday Lord Delamere was committed to the Tower, some say surrendered himself, an express being come that the bill was found against him, in Cheshire. Sir R. Cotton and Mr. Offley have been indicted for misdemeanour. This day the Venetian ambassadors made their entry with great splendour.

[The Same] to the Same.

[16]85, December 19—The story of Dr. Burnet's being reconciled is a fiction like that of the Duke of Saxony. I received a letter yesterday from sister Popham; she says the small pox is in that family. Very few die here of the small pox, but Thursday morning Lady Townshend died of it.

Edward Harley to [Sir Edward Harley?].

[16]85, December 22—It is said a general pardon is sent to Scotland with but few exceptions. The like it is said will be here. The great fears in the West have so damped trade that the customs there are worth but little. The Ministers about town continue to preach very well, and much against popery.

ROBERT HARLEY to [SIR EDWARD HARLEY].

[16]85, December 26—Giving an account of the cruelties practised upon the Protestants in France to make them change their religion.

The SAME to the SAME.

[16]85, December 29—The Bishop of London is gone down to the marriage of his nephew the Earl of Northampton with Lady Conway. The report is that he travelled on the Lord's day and somebody gave that as the reason, jocularly, of putting him out of the Council. His place of Dean of the Chapel is conferred on the Bishop of Durham, and he is succeeded as clerk of the closet by Dr. Sprat or Dr. Turner.

[The SAME] to the SAME.

1685–6, January 2—I have had talk with B. M[itchell's] husband. He is no Romanist and talks very fair.

Dr. Calamy lies dangerously ill. Lord Delamere has notice to come to his trial on January 14th.

On Wednesday Mr H[ampden] coming to the Old Bailey, where was a great audience and expectationof a defence, being ordered to plead, he said he had more to say for himself than any one ever had, particularly that he had been tried already and was in execution for the same fact, yet he would waive all pleas and cast himself upon the King's mercy. He was recorded guilty and sentence immediately pronounced; a warrant is also signed for his execution but pardon is promised.

The SAME to the SAME.

[16]85–6, January 5—It has been debated at the Sorbonne whether Divinity is not communicable to the King. The Archbishop of Rheims put a stop to it, for which he had no thanks. They have likewise debated the lawfulness of polygamy and judged it in the affirmative. The brief for the French protestants will speedily be out. The contributions are limited only to those that conform to the church.

There is a report that lately in Poitou was seen by several persons a fire in heaven; afterwards appeared a bright cloud, where were several men women and children who were distinctly heard singing the 89th psalm. Mr. Hampden is reprieved for several days. Dr. Calamy died on Sunday. Several persons had been like to have been lost between this and Worcester by the waters.

The SAME to the SAME.

[16]85–6. January 9—This week there has been a great clash with the Dutch Commissioners for Bantam affairs.

Lady Montagu's woman, dying in France, was buried in a garden, which being known they dug her up and dragged her naked about the streets. With much adoe my Lord rescued her carcase from being given to dogs and swine. Yesterday brought the sad news from Whitley of my mother Foley's death.

E. H[ARLEY] to [SIR EDWARD HARLEY].

[16]85[–6], January 23—The death of her mother has made so deep an impression on my sister[-in-law] that it has caused a return of the pain in her stomach.

My cousin and I continue to learn French of Dr. Duval. The study of the law is so difficult and tedious that there is little time to spare for other studies. I fear the way B. M[itchell] and her husband take will be the ruin of them both. She is of so proud and extravagant a temper that if she holds on in the company she now is in, her portion and his trade will not long maintain them. "She is a great cause of humility to those who are of the same flesh and blood. I never heard such atheisticall and prophane expressions as sometimes drops from her." Sir Gilbert Gerrard and Saxton are to be tried on Thursday week, the first for high treason, the other for perjury.

R. H[ARLEY] to SIR EDWARD HARLEY.

1685–6, January 26—I forgot to mention in my last the fire that consumed the body of Montagu House on the 20th instant, just the day week that Lord Devonshire who lived in the house had entertained the Venetian Ambassadors with a magnificent ballet. Mrs. Sidley, Countess of Dorchester was turned out of Court on Saturday though she is with child. Lord Ormond, Lord Arran's son, died on the Lord's day. Lord Digby of Warwickshire died in the country.

[EDWARD HARLEY] to [SIR EDWARD HARLEY.]

[16]85–6, January 30—It is confidently reported that Cardinal Howard is coming over. It is said there will be two camps raised the one at Blackheath, the other at Hounslow Heath.

[ROBERT HARLEY] to [SIR EDWARD HARLEY.]

[16]85–6, February 2—The Countess of Dorchester's business has made great disorders at Westminster. There has been a great engagement in Hungary between the Turks and Imperialists. This morning near Chelsea the Duke of Grafton and Colonel John Talbot, brother to the Earl of Shrewsbury fought, the latter killed upon the place. Grafton rendered himself at first but is since fled. It was occasioned by ill words given last night by Talbot.

[The SAME] to [the SAME.]

1685–6, February 6—The following passage having very untoward circumstances of suspicion I think not amiss to mention. B. Mitchell came hither very late this week just as I was going to bed and desired to speak with me. I sent her word that if her business was important I would dress and come to her. She went away but my Aunt's man heard three or four men go away with her from the door, having staid all the time she was in the house. She spoke when she came in not to shut the door but John locked it.

Sir Gilbert Gerrard will not be tried this term, and it is thought not at all.

Mr. White of Paternoster Row has died and left 500*l.* to pious uses without expressing what, but only mentioned his friend Mr. Jackson, a Nonconformist was to have 10*l.* out of it. Thereupon the whole 500*l.* is stopped for the King's use. Delaune is dead in Newgate about a week after Dr. Calamy. Tellier, the Chancellor of France died a few days after the passing of the revocation of the Edict of Nantes which was the

last thing he did. "They apply to him the words of Pliny Junior of Nerva who died immediately after he had adopted Trajan, *Hunc Dii coelo vindicaverunt, ne quid post illud divinum et immortale factum, mortale faceret.* But this is pardonable in respect of their profane abuse of Simeon's song to him applied."

It is said Geneva is received into the protection of the Cantons, being under apprehensions of attempts upon them by France. There is also a flying rumour that Savoy has attempted to root out the Protestants in that territory in imitation of France and that 10,000 men are in arms about Piedmont, resolving to stand for their defence.

The Earl of Northampton's match with Lady Conway is broken.

[The Same] to [the Same.]

[16]85–6, February 9—Saxton was yesterday convicted of perjury. This day Vernalti took his trial and was cleared by proclamation. It is said Mr. Talbot lately killed was one that danced in a shroud at the Earl of Devonshire's late ballet, and that he was foretold that he should be killed by a tall black man before he was twenty-one years old. Dr. Edes, a rich prebend of Chichester, will be tried to-morrow for commending in discourse at Dr. Cradock's table, a book printed in 1643. He spoke the words four years ago.

[The Same] to the Same, at Brampton.

[16]85–6, February 13—Brill Mitchell went by the Worcester coach on Thursday, she told her husband she intended to spend four weeks with her sister and grandmother. I think it would be very prejudicial to let her come, and at least stay, at Brampton so much as a night. She is a dangerous misreporter of what she hears, and is furnished with the most plausible arguments for Popery or atheism.

Sir William Gregory and Sir Cresswell Levinz were removed on Wednesday night and not suffered to sit. They will be succeeded by Sir T. Jenner and Bedingfield. Lord Grey will have his outlawry reversed. Lord Maitland, son to the Earl of Lauderdale, has declared himself a Catholic. There has been a great tumult in Edinburgh raised by the students, who assaulted the house of Lady Lucy Hamilton, where the Lord Chancellor was at mass. Dr. Edes was found guilty of high misdemeanour for commending a book recommended by Mr. Hunton in 1643. He is not yet sentenced. Saxon is to be pillorised and whipped. There is a process out of the exchequer against one of the possessors of part of the Abbey of Bermondsey, which is most part of Southwark—Mr. F. Gwyn having a patent for it.

[Edward Harley] to [Sir Edward Harley.]

[16]85[–6], February 19—My sister's illness has prevented my brother from leaving town.

I hear Sir T. Jenner and Judge Holloway will go the Oxford circuit. The assizes begin at Hereford on March 10.

[The Same to the Same.]

[16]85[–6], February 25—Sir Francis Clarke fell down dead in the street to-day. Mr. Aubrey succeeds Lemuel Kingdom as Commissioner for the Revenue of Ireland.

E. Ch[olmeley] to Lady Harley, at Brampton.

[16]85–6, February 25—Giving an account of the breaking off of the match between Lord Northampton and Lady Conway, who had given him up in favour of Mr. Seymour. *Signet.*

[Edward Harley] to Sir Edward Harley, at Brampton.

1685[–6], March 2—I am still learning French of Dr. Duval, and have helped him to other scholars, the only way he has to subsist.

The Recorder has carried himself with great moderation and would let a Conventicle be found a riot. I desire my letters may be directed to Mr. Tanner's, a stationer near the Garden, Middle Temple.

[The Same] to [the Same.]

[16]85–6, March 9—Mr. Baxter's papers were all seized last week. It is said there will be a place speedily provided for the public saying of mass in the City. It is reported the Duchess of Portsmouth will speedily return into England. The Cantons of Switzerland are entered into a league jointly to defend each other against all pretences.

R. H[arley] to [Sir Edward Harley].

[16]85–6, March 12. Oxford—We have been detained here since yesterday week. My wife is better and "hath, thanks be to God, a certainty of her breeding." My uncle intended to have desired to meet you at Bourton, but I hear the small pox is raging in the town and my wife is afraid to stay there. "Walker the papist hath brought there troops hither to secure himself, as he says, from the students."

[Edward Harley] to [Sir Edward Harley.]

[16]85–6, March 16—The Guards exercised with some of the newly raised regiments in Hyde Park to-day and acted the defeat of the Duke of Monmouth.

"Several merchants have raised a stock to send divers French protestants to New England, where they will maintain a French minister for them."

[The Same] to [the Same.]

[16]85–6, March 20—My brother Nat thinks he will not be able to go into the country for a fortnight; his master has not spoken to him lately about going beyond sea. It is said the Earl of Clarendon, the Earl of Rochester, the Earl of Dover, and the Earl of Feversham, with some of the King's sons will be created Dukes the next instalment. The Duke of Northumberland has married Captain Lucy's widow, who was daughter to a poulterer near Fleet Bridge. The Court seems much displeased at it. The butcher that killed the parson in bed with his wife is condemned at Northampton.

It is reported that the King of France is in a most desparate and loathsome condition. "His lower part it's said rot and are filled with vermin." Dr. Lowre has been sent for to come over to him, but refused. Sir John Narborough and several others are turned out of the navy.

[Robert Harley] to Sir Edward Harley.

[16]85-6, March 20. Whitley—Announcing their safe arrival

[Edward Harley] to [Sir Edward Harley.]

[16]86, March 27—"The exception of fines and judgements in the pardon, except Mr. Baxter and all in the King's Bench."

[The Same] to [the Same.]

[16]86, April 17—I am told by several that the best way of providing for the ordinary sort of the French fugitives is to contribute to the sending them beyond sea to New England. Bringing them into the country will be a great charge and trouble, and very difficult to provide them a trade.

[Robert Harley] to Sir Edward Harley.

[16]86, April 24. Whitley—I have sent by the opportunity of the waggon with my wife's things, a very large rolling stone for the bowling green, ready fitted except a frame. Samuel Moody the joiner to the family here goes with the waggon to put the table together and other things of my wife's, taken to pieces for convenience of carriage.

A. Pye to her cousin, Abigail Harley, at Brampton.

[16]86, May 12—We are now very lively here. The Gazette ten days since told you of the solicitor Finch being out and Powell in. Is he a considerable man near you? We hear the book that shewed the great cruelties to the French Protestants, at the request of the French Ambassador, was burnt in London by the common hangman. The French King is dead or dying. Great stir hath been in Bristol. A priest who went to say mass was like to be killed by the people; Sir John Knight sent him to prison, and the next day was met by the priest's friend first with a blow and drew upon him; he was taken and sent to accompany his friend.

[Edward Harley] to Sir Edward Harley.

[16]86, May 22—I find it difficult to dispose the money to the French protestants, so that it may come to those who really want. Mr. Primrose tells me that the difficulties of the escape has kept most of the tradesmen in France. Those that are come over that want employment are soldiers, dyers, and linen weavers. I hear a *quo warranto* is intended against the French Church in the City. Mr. Trench intends to send my brother [Nathaniel] over next week, with a good quantity of cloth.

A. Pye to her cousin, Abigail Harley, at Brampton.

1686, August 28—I never knew the town so dull and empty as it is now. All my acquaintance in the country, Brother Dick at Tunbridge

drinking the waters, the 'prentice Harry very well but not brisk enough for Aunt Bromfield. I hope I shall see your brother Nat ere it be long. Mr. Jolliffe in the city not like long to live, and then I hear his uncle in the Square declares he will marry. All people are in concern what Tuesday next will produce, for then is the day for the Bishop of London to answer before the Commissioners; most think he will be suspended. The only thing that I hear they allege against him is for not suspending Dean Sharpe. I suppose you hear Cartwright, Dean of Ripon is to be Bishop of Chester, and Doctor Parker, Bishop of Oxford. The King is in the West, lay at Badminton last week; the Queen and Princess returned to Whitehall, and this all the public news I can muster up. *Signet.*

J. D. C[OLT] to ROBERT HARLEY, at Brampton.

[16]86, September 9—The Judges are ordered up for their opinion in some special matter, but it is said the Recorder of London will not pass sentence of death upon the soldiers who ran from their colours, he saying he knows no martial law in England nor any theft, for they are entrusted with their clothes. Breda is taken by storm. The Spanish Ambassador made a bonfire at Wild House last night and brought out wine for the mob, but the rabble overthrew the bonfires, broke the cask of wine and broke the windows and pulled down some of the brick wall. The Queen Dowager is gone to Bath. I was put into the prison house again but am out now upon parole. How long it will last I know not.

A. PYE to her cousin, ABIGAIL HARLEY, at Brampton.

[16]86, October 23—Giving an account of the death of her brother Cholmeley.

A. PYE to her cousin, ABIGAIL HARLEY, at Brampton.

1686, November 18. Chavenage—I am sorry my Aunt Harley's lameness is come into the other leg. If it can be kept from her breast this may not be so dangerous, though I believe it is very hard to be contented for one of my aunt's active spirit.—*Signet.*

[ROBERT HARLEY] to SIR EDWARD HARLEY, at Brampton.

1686-7, February 3—I hear a papist did say publicly in a coffee house at Wolverhampton that all sheriffs that took the oath of supremacy are guilty of perjury, for the King had renounced it.

P. F[OLEY] to ROBERT HARLEY, at Whitley Court.

1686-7. February 1—Mr. Leopold Finch is by the Queen's interest, his brother marrying one of the maids of honour, stept in to be Warden of All Souls College, Dr. James dying soon after you went hence, to the disappointment of Dr. Plot, for whom Walker made all his interest, and of Dryden, for whom others did stickle. The D[ean] of Christ Church is somewhat disordered with thoughtfulness. Some imagine

his master having first drawn him in, pushes him on faster than as yet he is willing to go. All the Canons resident, lately, under hand and seal, certified to the Judges the Dean's refusal to take the oaths and test. Mr. Walker's press has now produced one of his books, which Dr. Jane and Aldridge or one of them are answering. Lord Peterborough is expected here shortly, to lodge with the Dean. We have no talk of the antitest, surely it is but talked of.

[Edward Harley] to Sir Edward Harley.

[16]87, April 2—Among my French acquaintances I have met a merchant who has very good claret. It is pure wine without the mixtures of the tavern wine. He offers it to me for 10*l.* a hogshead. If you like to have any Mr. Foley will have the remainder. Dr. Burnet has removed from the Hague, his stay there being displeasing to our Court. He has married a lady with a great fortune. The King laying the cause of the late war upon the violent persecutions of the clergy, cuts that tribe to the heart to be touched in so tender a place. Certainly the acknowledgment is of no small consequence.

It is said that Lord Peterborough has declared himself a Roman Catholic.

The Same to the Same.

[16]87, May 21. London.—I came here on Thursday in company with Mr. Harcourt our schoolfellow, who has just lost his wife. Mr. Trench has received a letter from my brother dated in March. I do not know what further is in it than that he has enjoyed his health.

I find that great numbers of French protestants have lately come into England. The public stock is near spent. Mr. Dane the physician is unprovided for and in great want. There is one M. Boni of a noble family who has been with me. I suppose my uncle Foley when he hears how great their wants are, will be inclined to entertain one or two in his family, which is the most effectual way of relieving them. M. Galatre is not yet gone to Holland. If any at Leominster intend to entertain anyone, I know no person whose wants and piety do more require it.

The numbers of the addressers have yet been very inconsiderable. Lord Worcester has lost his regiment. It is said the Duke loses ground apace.

A. Pye to her cousin, [Abigail] Harley in King Street.

1687, May 24. Chavenage—Inviting her to join Mr. Pye and herself at Tunbridge in order to take the waters there. *Signet.*

[Edward Harley] to [Sir Edward Harley.]

[16]87, May 31—Concerning difficulties between his sister Popham and her husband.

The Same to [the Same].

[16]87, June 14—My cousin James [Kyrle] is bent upon being a merchant. Mr. Jolliffe offers to take him and send him out in a year

and a half, but he has apprentices enough abroad now for his trade. Cousin H. Stephens goes to Smyrna in a month. The French protestants come over in great numbers. I wish there were greater compassion towards them here. I intend to send Mr. Dane and his niece down by the Worcester coach. I suppose Mr. Foley will not be displeased to let him stay at Whitley till there be a convenience for his going to Brampton.

The Same to the Same, at Brampton.

[16]87, June 21—"I cannot but be greatly sensible of my mother's illness. Of all creature enjoinments there is none so delicate as that of near relations."

The talk of the dissolution of Parliament is over: "It is said there are several undertakers that promise to manage so as that they shall be brought to comply with the K[ing's] desires." There goes a ship to Aleppo in a fortnight.

The Same to [the Same].

[16]87, June 25—The doctor is much against the use of all waters for my mother. If any may be beneficial he thinks it is the Hoxton (Hogsdon) waters, which he thinks are better let alone.

Abigail Harley to her father, Sir Edward Harley, at Brampton.

[16]87, June 25. London—My Aunt Bromfield has spoken to Dr. Windebank concerning my mother drinking waters and his opinion is that all waters are very improper for a cancerous tumour. He says Hoxton would be least prejudicial, as there is nothing of alum or steel in them, but advises to meddle with none.

Yesterday my cousin Brill Smith was here; she told me she lay in at Lady Berkeley's house who is sister to Lord Fairfax, and is a Papist and all that family.

In my sister Harley's box I have sent *The Test of the Church of England's Loyalty*. It is said to be written by Munson the Jesuit that was concealed by Lord Anglesea at the time of the plot. They cannot be printed so fast as they sell. I hear there is an answer in the press. It is reported that the Pope's Nuncio makes a public entrance into London next week and that he is made Bishop of York.

E. H[arley] to Sir Edward Harley.

[16]87, July 2—Concerning proposals for a marriage between his sister [Martha?] and Mr. Fowler a Barbados merchant, said to be worth 10,000*l*.

The Same to [the Same].

[16]87, July 5—Mr. Fowler has seen my sister and seemed to like her. I shall receive his proposals to-morrow. The Duke of Somerset is turned out of all his places for refusing to attend the Pope's Nuncio who made his public entry at Windsor on Sunday last.

The Same to the Same.

[16]87, July 9—I went yesterday with my aunt and sister to Spring Garden where Mr. Fowler met us. He is no courtier but a man of solid understanding. I have sent by the carrier a barrel of sturgeon, two bags containing nets and "fencing pumps," and a pair of files.

A. Pye to [Abigail] Harley, in King Street.

1687, July 19, Tunbridge—Here is no great store of company and most Irish nobility and gentry. The Duke of Northumberland coming to church and prayers contradicts the report we heard of his being of her Grace's persuasion. Here is dancing at one of the three greens every night; we are generally spectators, but amongst many sparks there is great scarcity of dancers that will be so obliging, that the ladies take up with slovenly ones sometimes. And such like tattle as this is all we hear here. *Signet.*

[Robert] Harley to his father [Sir Edward Harley].

1687, July 28, Kinsham—Concerning the illness of a cousin, lying sick of an infectious disease at Brampton.

[The Same] to the Same.

[16]87, July 30—God is gracious to us that we hear such comfortable tidings, but we are troubled to hear of your indisposition. God grant recovery both to you and my mother.

[The Same] to the Same.

[16]87, August 1. Kinsham—A long letter of condolence upon the death of his cousin.

[Robert Harley] to [Sir Edward Harley.]

[16]87, August 17. Whitley—Mr. Swinfen has had an apoplectic fit. My uncle has been with him. His opinion is those that can should get into the house. That the churchmen must not be trusted. The King will be at Worcester on Tuesday. His Guards went yesterday to Ludlow to be ready there. The clerk of the peace by order from the Lord Lieutenant, has sent summons to "father F[oley]" and the other gentlemen to attend the King there.

[The Same] to the Same.

[16]87, August 24. Whitley—Yesterday I attended my father Foley. We met the King about four miles out of Worcester between that and Upton. We made no stay in Worcester, otherwise I had waited on Lord Dartmouth. To-day the King passed by this house. Earl Mulgrave took down the Queen's bed at Marlborough and put up his own, for which he was forbid any further attendance this progress. The Duke of Ormond is laid up with the gout at Badminster; the Duke of Beaufort entered Worcester *solus cum solo.* Dr. Hicks in the name of the Dean and Chapter read an address but did not deliver it and the King made no answer. Mr. Primrose also presents an address. It is a great mercy that God vouchsafes to put a stop to the infection.

The Same to [the Same].

[16]87, September 5—I hope the Queen of Hungary water is come to Worcester.

September 7—I hear the Baron of Burford is not knighted. Sir T. Wilbraham entertained the King at dinner on account of a manor held of the crown and to revert thither in case of failure of males, and he desires to settle it on Lord Huntingtower. At Newport the King exposed the Popish plot but no one seconded it. I hear and fear it is true that Mr. Bryan and Mr. Talents went bare before the king to the church when he touched, and attended at the prayers. Mr. Henry presented an address at Whitchurch. Penn went through the whole progress and preached at Chester.

My uncle Philip's opinion is that friends should not put themselves forward nor decline the service.

Robert Harley to his mother, Lady Harley, at Brampton.

[16]87, September 7. Whitley—Sending her some Queen of Hungary water in the box as it came from Montpellier, and hoping that the use of it may be good for her health.

Elizabeth Harley to her sister [-in-law], Abigail Harley, in King Street, Bloomsbury.

1687, September 10. Whitley—I know you have heard the King came by this house though the other way was prepared for him. Mr. Penn was in the progress and preached at Chester. The King was entertained by Sir T. Wilbraham and was well pleased. There was cold meat and sweetmeats and fruit. The Lords complained much of the "naughty" wine. Magdalen College at Oxford have refused the Bishop of Oxford to be their President, because they say they cannot do it without perjury.

News Letter.

1687. September 13—The reason for His Majesty's coming to Windsor during the Queen's stay at the Bath, is said to be because several weighty affairs oblige him to hold a general council whereof is said to be one, the calling speedily a Parliament to declare the time and how to order things accordingly, another is that the Commissioners of the Treasury are to attend to order money for the defraying of the charges of the Duke of Grafton's and Sir Robert Holmes's ships at sea, and to resolve how many and of what rate Sir Robert is to take with him to join the Duke, for the last letters from the said Duke seem to intimate that he intends to leave Portugal in three or four days and according to his instructions to go for the Straits to call upon Algiers to confirm that peace and to dispatch Sir Robert Strickland back for England with the King's servants that went to attend the Queen.

The Lord Tyrconnell's sudden return for Ireland was occasioned by the order he has to prepare all things towards a Parliament there which the King would have to sit the fifth of November, but if it cannot be that time it must be put off till the twenty-fifth of March but he is rather obliged to expedite all things for the fifth of November, for he is to propose to them that all the English that have the estates of the

Irish Papists in their possession shall pay them three years' rent, and in lieu of it all claim and pretension of the Irish shall for ever be void and expired, and the titles of the English be good and firm for ever by virtue of an Act of Parliament to be made for that purpose; an expedient which will free the English of all fear and danger of being violently dispossessed of those lands and estates, and will also make some small satisfaction to the Irish for their great losses, considering that they have hardly more to expect during this Government, and much less or nothing at all in case of a change. This may convince us that there is no design of introducing Popery there, much less here, &c.

The Lord Tyrconnell is also ordered to send hither six regiments of foot in the vessels wherein lately were carried hither arms for twenty thousand men. It being thought necessary to be here in a fit posture during the session of our next Parliament in order to secure the peace; and because so great a detachment might weaken the force there in Ireland, some regiments of ours, they say, are to go thither after the Parliament here is broken up, and in the meantime the greatest part of the remainder of that army is to quarter—as I mentioned lately—in the north of that kingdom to keep the Scotch Protestants in awe.

The King's progress being at an end we find that the Presbyterians have been highly caressed by the Court, and as they went along several Presbyterians were put in the Deputy Lieutenancies of the counties they passed. If this do avail to the getting a Parliament to the King's mind, then the test &c. will be repealed in order to settle and establish a good understanding and unity between his Majesty's subjects, which he has so often declared to be his only design and desire.

Letters from France say that that King has published a *Placat* forbidding all Protestants of what nation soever to reside in that country after three months upon pain of confiscation and imprisonment, public ministers, merchants, and travellers excepted.

News Letter.

[1687, September]—Whereas His Majesty has by his letters patent required the Duke of Norfolk Earl Marshall of England to put in execution the power of the said office of Earl Marshall and to call revive and hold from time to time—as formerly has at any time been lawfully used—a Court of Chivalry, which said Court was duly held heretofore until the horrid rebellion in 1641, since which time by reason of the said Court being disused many abuses not relievable in any other Court have been unreformed and gone unpunished; the said Earl Marshall has appointed to hold his said Court on Saturday the first day of October next in the Painted Chamber in His Majesty's Palace of Westminster.

The East India Company's sale has begun and they have appointed the twenty-eighth instant to make a dividend and the twenty ninth or thirtieth to pay off several of their obligations, they being much in debt and for that reason have incurred His Majesty's displeasure. They have given leave to three merchant ships not of the Company, under some regulation, to trade to India. His Majesty has ordered new instances to be made about the affairs of Bantam and declared to the Dutch Ambassador by the Lord Middleton that this shall be the last demand.

We hear from the Bath that His Majesty publicly declared he will have a Parliament in February, if it could not be sooner, and that he

doubted not but to gain all his points, and that a person of honour answered it was fit he should, for that he saw no design but what is good and expedient for the whole nation. Thence also they write that Sir Robert Holmes will have no more than five men of war, and them to be ready against November, and that in that month he shall be going, and that if there be any probability of a falling out with Algier —there being at present little appearance of it—that then he shall join the Duke of Grafton; if not, and the King of Spayne's ratification of the agreement made here by that time arriving, Sir Robert shall be dispatched for the West Indies without further delay, though some believe he will not go till next spring.

Letters from Scotland say that on the twenty-ninth past the Lords Justiciary had pronounced Doctor Burnet a fugitive for not appearing to his first summons of high treason.

Father Peters has put the Earl of Mulgrave in grace again with the Queen his Lordship having sent a humble letter to her Majesty by his hand, and will go meet the Court on their way to Windsor.

The Earl of Devonshire has given in bail for his true imprisonment and is gone into the country. The gaoler has obliged his Lordship to appear the first day of the next term.

Quaker Penn attends the King very close and preaches at the Bath in the Tennis Court but the report of his being made one of the King's Privy Council is false, though the King consults him in all matters of moment.

There is come over a particular account of the late victory in Hungary sent the King from Count Taff by order of the Duke of Lorraine which his Majesty has ordered to be put in print. The said Count is here expected suddenly to have, they say, the command of the King's army either here or in Ireland. In the same account is also mentioned that the Duke of Berwick though not fully recovered of his fever, when the battle began came in a coach to the head of his regiment, and was present there all the time of the action, but being in the right wing, they engaged just when the Turks were going to retreat.

From Portsmouth we hear that the Duke and Duchess of Albemarle set sail for Jamaica on Thursday last.

It is heard that Captain Lea who came from the West Indies into the Downs with ten barrels of silver and two chests with gold and for fear of trouble went away privately, has obtained His Majesty's pardon not only for himself but likewise for those that are in their voyage hither with a far greater treasure than he hath.

Robert Harley to Sir Edward Harley.

[16]87, September 16. Whitley—Concerning his brother-in-law Popham and other private affairs.

[The Same] to the Same.

[16]87, September 26. Whitley—I cannot but give you an account of Mr. Nelson who spent Sunday week here. He read prayers with a great deal of devotion, his prayer in the pulpit was very serious and pertinent. He preached with a great deal of plainness without affectation of learning. The church was so full in the morning we could hardly get to our seats and the afternoon many at the windows. I have seldom seen an auditory so attentive. After the first sermon, besides

those that had friends and acquaintances to go to, about a hundred went into the church again to stay between the sermons, and one to repeat according to their custom. But they were sent for here to dinner and repetition.

My father Foley designs to have a day of prayer for family and public affairs. I hear there are many projects on foot and several undertakers for Parliament, which they talk shall meet December 10th and that a new *Magna Charta*, as they call it, shall be enacted.

Sir Walter Young, whom I saw here, could not tell me what would be done in the west unless the new charters were taken off.

[The Same] to the Same.

[16]87, October 8—On Tuesday I went to Swinfen; we found him at home and that Mr. R. Hampden and Mr. How the minister had been with him lately. He says none but staunch men are to be trusted. One end of this sunshine is to melt the other side into compliance. The last session gave evidence enough they would not stand if pressed hard. The case is something like [16]60, when honest men declined; besides to lie still will betray the interest of England. Every person is now valued according to his interest and what he can do. The eyes abroad are on this scene and will accordingly hereafter esteem men by their interest, and it is to be feared that if the country be deserted now they will fix their favour on others another time.

My uncle William Ashe is here. I find he is acquainted with the affairs at Bourton. I hope to make use of him to write to his cousin. Mr. Seymour, though invited by Lord Dartmouth to wait upon the King at Bath, declined to do so. The Papists say that the letter to the Dissenters is written by a club. Lord Halifax has "most ink in it."

E. H[arley] to [Sir Edward Harley].

[16]87[-8], January 3—Concerning his cousin Brilliana Smith and her husband who "keepes the Friars for fear of debts contracted by his wife."

Richard Reed to Edward Harley.

[16]87-8, February 13. Lugwardine—Some time since I received a letter from Sir Edward inviting me to receive into my house one of the French exiled Protestants. If you can find out one whom you conceive to be a real object of charity, a sober, ingenuous person that will be content with my accommodation I beseech you to give me notice thereof. Peasants and handicraftsmen can get their living anywhere, but some gentleman, scholar, or one that is of a profession not to be employable here for a livelihood, is such a one as is most an object for a gentleman to take in. It is a dangerous time to take strangers into one's house. We know not what we do in so doing. "You may find out one who in this extremity wilbe content to be with a gentleman in nature of a servant, to attend him in his chamber."

E. Cholmely to Lady Harley, at Brampton.

[16]87-8. February 17, Chisleton—"I doubt not you have heard of the death of Sir Roger Twisden's lady who has left a sad family, being

a very great loss to it. Poor Lady Stiles has also lost her youngest boy, was a lusty child, must needs much trouble her. God grant all these breaches may be sanctified warnings to us, we have several kinds to admonish. I suppose you have better intelligence from Oxon than I can give. Yesterday came advice to Sir John D——— that he with other such sort of gentlemen were put out of the Common Council by official order from His Majesty, though they were chosen by the town according to the ancient custom, and one Titmarsh an Anabaptist minister, a shoemaker, and a glover put in their places; such sort with papists fill up the vacancies in other places as at Abingdon &c. But what joys me is, that still the worthy men of the Church of England are not ashamed to own their religion in maintaining the principles. The Dean of Gloucester now at Oxon preaches with great boldness and plainness, making out their idolatry to their satisfaction who hear him, and touches near the Bishop of the place; he stirs not out anywhere as it is said, but has kept his chamber ever since he camet hither; his book has had many answers."

[Edward Harley] to Sir Edward Harley, at Brampton.

[16]87[-8], February 25—The London Jockeys will be at Worcester on Friday, so that if you please James might take the gelding and stone horse there if they are fit for sale. In Northampton, Nottingham, Norfolk, and Somersetshire are put in commission all the old whigs.

Newsletter.

[1687-8], March 13—From the French Court we hear that the Intendant of Languedoc finding fifteen hundred Huguenots—that were forced to change and are since returned to their first religion—at a field conventicle, sent his dragoons amongst them, who killed and took half the number, some of whom he caused to be hanged, others to be put into dungeons and others he sent to galleys; that notwithstanding all the misery they are put to, they continue firm and will not be deterred from meeting publicly. There are six thousand of them in the wood, and by letters desired their brethren to keep a solemn fast on the 25th instant, which they there intend to do to pray God to enable them to go through with their resolution.

Saturday last we had letters from Holland with an account that the States had put out a *placate* promising 100*l.* sterling to him that should discover any one of the three persons that set upon a Scotch gentleman who came out of Dr. Burnet's house, and run him through; that it is quite believed there that they intended it to Dr. Burnet, but were mistaken in the man, it being in the night. Some say it was Captain Hamilton that came out from visiting Dr. Burnet, which if true doth show that not he but another captain was with Captain Davies &c.; the business looks very foul.

The letters add, that the Lord Albeville had presented another memorial to the States demanding the king's forces by virtue of the capitulation made between them and the late Earl of Ossory, but that the States are very slow and seem little inclined to comply &c.

We have no account of the arrival of any more officers from Holland nor is there any commissions given out for the raising of men here as was said—supposed till we hear whether we shall have the said forces from Holland.

The Irish regiment of guards, commanded by the Earl of Ossory is sent for over against the opening of the camp, which the King has

appointed to be in June and the train of artillery to be there by the 24th of that month.

From Ireland we hear that two Romish priests are made Masters of the Chancery and that Captain Meredith a protestant, who was put out of possession of 400*l.* per annum estate by the sheriff of Meath upon making good his title, has been reinstalled by the same sheriff, though with danger of his life, for the then possessor fired a blunderbuss upon him when they were breaking open the door, but that it only flashed in the pan.

We talk of another declaration for liberty of conscience that will come forth to second the first and to be of a larger extent and explanation, that when a parliament be called, a proviso shall be in the Bill to be tendered to the House in order to pass into a law, that all protestant churches shall remain to the Church established by law and never be altered to any other worshipping nor they exempt from taking the oaths.

It is said also that the Commissioners of the Treasury are ordered to issue out directions, to know how the officers in the several branches of the King's revenues stand affected to the present measures, especially in reference to the repealing of the Test and penal laws that such as are against them, might be removed and others put into their places.

It is said that the Duke of Grafton caused the officers of his squadron of ships to take the Test, by which he has contracted some odium, so that if he continue in the station he is in, it will be more than we expect.

Sir Thomas Meers is displaced from being a commissioner of the Foreign Plantations and one of the Commissioners of the peace, for refusing to be one of the Repealers.

Grant that was made Mayor of Guildford and spake ill of the late Solicitor General Finch, is turned out, and a Dissenter less notorious than he, is put in.

Mr. Prettyman, Master of the First Fruits Office being dead, Mr. Charles Porter is sworn in his place, which they say is 800*l.* per annum.

The Lord Lovelace was likely to be prosecuted for the words mentioned lately, but it seems that matter will fall for nothing more than that he spoke them more wisely than at other times.

They talk now again that we shall have a Parliament in spring, but I do not hear of such a resolution declared in any of the Councils, but only hear that the Judges have declared something of this kind in their circuits.

Sir E. H[arley] to his kinsman, Herbert Masters, High Sheriff of Herefordshire, at Burfield.

[16]87–8, March 22. Brampton—I have received a summons from you to serve upon the grand inquest at the next assizes at Hereford. I have never yet served in that capacity but I know that I am not able for it being afflicted with frequent and painful distempers in my head. *Copy.*

[Edward Harley] to Sir [Edward Harley.]

[16]87[–8.] March 24—I have heard from brother Popham that Mall was very sick of the measles but that he hoped she was out of danger. The Duke of Ormond, Lord Bolingbroke, the Countess of Exeter and, it is reported, the Bishop of Oxford, died this week.

THE MAYOR AND CORPORATION of NEWCASTLE-UNDER-LYNE to SIR EDWARD HARLEY.

1688, April 5—Praying him to permit Mr. Oulton their ejected minister, to return to his former cure. *Signed.*

[SIR EDWARD HARLEY] to the MAYOR and CORPORATION of NEWCASTLE-UNDER-LYNE.

1688, April 5. Brampton—Consenting to their request that Mr. Oulton might be allowed to leave Brampton and return to his former cure. *Copy.*

JOHN HAMPDEN.

1688, April 15—A long confession by John Hampden acknowledging that he had allowed his mind to be corrupted by intercourse with the author of the *Critical History*, and also that he had supplied Father Symon with funds to execute the design which he had framed, of a critical polyglot Bible. *Copy. On the same sheet are copies of endorsements by Simon Patrick and Richard Kidder to whom successively a closed packet containing the above confession appears to have entrusted.*

W. LEVESON GOWER to SIR EDWARD HARLEY, at Brampton.

1688, April 24. Trentham—Concerning Mr. Oulton.

ROBERT HARLEY to his father [SIR EDWARD HARLEY].

[16]88, April 30—I hope you arrived safely at Essington. Dear Mother has begun the waters this morning. "Betty often goeth to the studdy door to see for her grandfather, and knocks."

EDWARD HARLEY to SIR EDWARD HARLEY.

[16]88, May 1—There were last Sabbath day at Mr. Burgess's Meeting House near three hundred communicants. By a sermon preached by Mr. Beverley upon the sacrament I was put upon the thought of more fully partaking of that ordinance and that it ought to be received every Lord's Day. Mr. Baxter and Mr. Burgess are of opinion that the Sabbath is not complete without it.

SIR E. H[ARLEY] to THOMAS OULTON.

1688, May 12—Consenting to his return to his former cure at Newcastle-under-Lyne. *Copy.*

——— to SIR EDWARD HARLEY, at Brampton.

1688, May 12. London—On the 9th instant four men were drawn out of each company of the two regiments at Portsmouth to wait on the Princess of Denmark at the Bath, with whom one captain, one lieutenant and one ensign marched that morning.

Some Flushing ships arrived at the Isle of Wight, which say they left five Dutch men-of-war off at sea, bound for the Straits, who were to cruize in search of the Algerines.

On the 4th instant in the evening the Lord Chief Justice and Lord Chief Baron of Ireland arrived at Dublin from England, the next day a summons was sent to Thomas Sheredine Esquire to appear and to be ready for a hearing the Tuesday following before the Lord Chancellor, Lord Chief &c., who were the committee of the Council appointed for that matter. There are about forty five witnesses summoned to evidence against him and the proceedings will be done in public.

Several soldiers are arrived at Dublin, that have been detached out of part of the army of that kingdom, which with eight detachments will make up a full regiment, and when completed will be sent for England. Her Majesty is very well again—blessed be &c.—and holds her resolution of going to Windsor the latter end of the month.

The King when at Chatham ordered several forts to be built at every corner of the river Medway. The Holland fleet which were said to be on our coast, proves to be a fleet of merchantmen bound for the west.

The Prince of Orange is preparing for Loo there to reside most of this summer. Most of the frontier garrisons especially towards Flanders have their full number of men, and orders are given for their commanders not to go without leave far from their respective places. In the next Assembly of the States there will be a new proposal made for the supply of the French protestants, as well for those already here as them coming over in great numbers daily.

Several gentlemen of the County of Bucks pleaded yesterday to an information for speaking scandalous words against the Lord Chancellor and are to be tried the next term.

To-morrow Father Smith will be consecrated a Bishop at the Queen Dowager's chapel.

It is said the question following will not only be put to all the clerks of the several Halls and Liverymen but to the officers of the army, [whether] they will choose such members [of parl]iament as shall be for taking the penal laws and test, and supporting His Majesty's declaration for liberty of conscience.

Edward Harley to [Sir Edward Harley].

[16]88, May 19—My attendance on Tuesday at Lady Wolstenholme's funeral prevented my writing. She was carried from her house in Soho to Stanmore Church, which was built by her husband's father. She lies by her husband in a little vault over which is erected a most magnificent monument, much finer I think, than any in the Abbey.

The ministers of London generally refuse to read the Declaration. Six bishops were last night with the King with a petition to be excused from reading it. The King said he expected no arguing, but obedience.

If the gardener is gone from Brampton, there is a poor Frenchman that is very much recommended to me for a good gardener.

The Same to the Same.

[16]88, June 7—The seven petitioning bishops were all sent to the Tower by the Council for refusing to enter into recognizances for their appearing to an information in the King's Bench.

News Letter.

[1688,] June 9—From France we hear that the King though he finds himself now and then pretty well yet doth he much suspect his time to draw towards a period, and therefore has begun to employ the Dauphin about all his secret counsels and designs, as by him to give and receive proposals and answers, and accordingly has ordered the Court not to transact anything of consequence without his knowledge, and that it is surmised there that the King is upon some other important design in relation to the Dauphin which affords variety of discourse there.

From Holland we hear that the States General offered the Elector of Saxony an alliance, that they made some progress therein, but his stay being short in these parts, sent for some of his Privy Council to attend him at six to finish that affair. The letters add that the States have under examination the matter of poisoning the Prince of Orange, and that it was uncertain how it would end ; that lately a party of English soldiers in making their escape for England had declared there that nothing else but the welcome news of his Majesty's resolution to keep a standing army in England and just payments had encouraged them to hazard their flight, and that all and every one of the six regiments were resolved to follow them one time or other, which had obliged the States to order them more narrowly to be watched, and had caused one that ran away from his colours at Breda, and was retaken, to be hanged to deter the rest &c.; that the Lord Dunmore Master of Horse to the Queen upon his arrival in Holland waited upon the Prince and Princess of Orange and signified to her Royal Highness the desire her Majesty had of her company in her lying in, but her Highness excused the same, wishing her Majesty a happy minute. It is said if a Prince be born a day of thanksgiving will be appointed throughout the three kingdoms, and open houses kept at Whitehall and St. James's for several days.

This day the Queen intended to remove from Whitehall to St. James's where all things are provided in magnificent pomp. Her Majesty on Tuesday went to Hyde Park in her coach being very well upon her late indisposition.

The Prince and Princess are likewise very well at the Bath and intend to quit that place the latter end of this month and the Queen Dowager, who is much better since she was troubled with the new distemper, will go to the Bath soon after the Queen is brought to bed, and found in a good state of health.

The Bishop of Bath and Wells taking his leave of the Princess at the Bath in order to come up to town, her Royal Highness seemed much concerned at his present trouble. It is said before he came away he preached a sermon, which drew tears from his auditors' eyes, believing it to be his farewell or last sermon.

Many ministers of the Dioceses of Chester, Lincoln, &c. have declined the reading of the declaration notwithstanding the orders and direction sent them from the Bishops, and it is remarkable that the Bishop of Durham having in his Palatinate offered a paper to be subscribed, about a hundred vintners and victuallers refused and so lost their licences.

The camp is deferred for some days by reason of the present distemper amongst men and horses till such time as the Colonel shall give his Majesty a true account of the condition of their regiments.

There happened on Tuesday last an odd accident upon the Lord Craven's guard at Whitehall. The Corporal and a soldier differing, the soldier, when the corporal was asleep, cut him over his face with his

bayonet and stabbed him in the stomach, whereof he immediately died. The soldier in a Court of Verge in Westminster Hall was by the jury found guilty of wilful murder. The offence the corporal had given him it appeared was only that Croaker, the soldier, fighting with his fellow soldier the corporal parted them twice and the second time gave him a box on the ear. On Wednesday another corporal was killed by two soldiers at Lambeth.

Upon notice given to the King that the Dutch fleet was just upon setting sail to go northwards, order was sent to our squadron immediately to weigh anchor and steer northwards likewise, to watch the Dutch and be ready in case they should attempt to make a descent somewhere in England or Scotland.

Complaint being brought to the King of great disorders committed by the soldiers quartered at Monmouth, particularly that they made one of the new regulated Aldermen ride the wooden horse, has ordered inquiry to be made into the authors of the riot &c.

Thom Bayly and three other notorious clippers and coiners though pardoned several times, have again obtained his Majesty's pardon in consideration of the great discovery they daily make of shopkeepers.

Sir John Peake the late Lord Mayor died on Monday last after a fortnight's illness. Also Sir George Pudsey Recorder of Oxford and a prisoner in the Fleet died after some few days' indisposition. His debts are about twelve thousand pounds and his estate is worth three times as much. Though it is justly said that the new epidemical distemper does not prove mortal to anybody yet we have an account that a grocer of London, and an apothecary in Brewer Street near Soho, who felt ill in the same manner, died within twenty-four hours.

There is a flying report that His Majesty had an offer of twenty-five good men of war made him by the French King for his use against the Dutch but how that report is grounded I know not.

Yesterday evening at five o'clock the seven Bishops attended the Council according to summons, the King being present, and being called in and asked whether they owned the paper they had presented to the King upon scruple whether they should—as the law terms it—accuse themselves, they owned it as their act. They were bid withdraw, and being called in again, bail was required to appear the first day of the next term before the King's Bench Bar to answer what would be laid to their charge which they refused upon account of peerage, nor would they enter recognizance themselves so were commanded to withdraw again, and in a little time the Serjeant at Arms came to them with a warrant to commit them to the Tower. They were conveyed in the Archbishop's own barge about seven o'clock. Great was the concourse of people at Whitehall who seemed much concerned and cried aloud for the Bishops, and the like was at their landing near the Tower, the people begging their blessing and Doctor Ken bid them be steadfast in their religion. They were not discouraged at all, particularly the Archbishop told them it was the truth they suffer for. The Lord Godolphin, Father Peters &c. signed the warrant. The Lord Chancellor and Lord Berkly would not sign it. This day many people of quality have been to wait upon them in the Tower. Sir Edward Hales was ready to receive them, and gave them all accommodation imaginable. At the time of their entrance the Lord Dartmouth's regiment of fusiliers was drawn up with ball in their muskets. I hear not whether they will remove themselves by *habeas corpus* or not but suppose that is a thing to be acted as their counsel shall direct.

[Robert Harley] to Sir Edward Harley.

[16]88, June 13. Angel Inn, Oxford—On Saturday I came to Essington and found my cousin and his brother Robert greatly recovered. "One thing I find grates very much, that he so peremptorily insists it was no natural distemper but a possession." Great doings at Magdalen for the birth of the Prince of Wales. At Gloucester the Mayor committed a churchwarden because the bells did not ring.

[The Same] to the Same.

[16]88, June 16. M[iddle] Temple—Yesterday I came up by the Oxford coach. Since the late North winds, colds and feverish distempers have been more frequent than before. They have had the same distemper in France.

Yesterday the Bishops came up to the King's Bench by *habeas corpus* at the motion of the Attorney General. The solicitor was very sharp upon the Bishop's counsel and told them of the extraordinary fines five years since, and urged Mr. Finch, Sir Robert Sawyer, and Sergeant Pemberton that they made this law five years since. "A person did ask "if Sir E. H. would accept a privy counsellors place. It was returned "he had waved it in King Charles 2 time and is grown older since."

—— to Robert Harley at Brampton.

[1688], June 19—On Sunday being the day of public thanksgiving the Earl of Litchfield's regiment with that of the Scotch Guards quartered in Southwark drew out into St. George's fields and divided, the Roman Catholics went to their chapel, and the Protestants to the parish churches. The same evening they had bonfires made in the fields and tents set up, where all sorts of provisions were for the officers, and after much firing the soldiers had great quantity of ale given them; the like was done in the Meuse, and in the fleet in the Downs.

It is reported that sixteen sail of French men of war are coming to the Downs, but I hear said for certain that about sixty men of war are at Brest, whereof a great part fitted out in that place.

There are many things in this kingdom as well as others that depend upon the present measures of France; great news is impatiently expected by the next post upon the present quarrel with the Bishops. I hear the King has in a great measure discovered his design to stick close to France, and that he is resolved not to suffer his measures to be obstructed whether by the means of the Bishops or any others.

The Commissioners of the Navy are sent with great expedition to fit out some men of war at Portsmouth, and they say we shall have six thousand five hundred seamen in pay.

I am told that Dr. Hawkins Minister of the Tower is turned out for refusing to read the declaration.

From York we hear that one Morphew a Roman Catholic painter drinking confusion to those who did not read his Majesty's declaration was attacked and beaten by one of the King's officers quartering in those parts, of which complaint is made to the King, and the officer is sent for up.

The Same to the Same.

[16]88, June 23—All things here in great hurry and expectation as to the bishops and the Hollander. A messenger arrived yesterday to

congratulate from the Princess, but he forbears until he receive an account by a messenger sent to himself. Saxony, Mecklenburgh, Wolfenbultel, and Brandenburg, entirely his. "A most brave man, beyond his father, and doth not drink."

[Edward Harley] to Lady Harley.

[16]88, June 30—"Being yesterday present at the tryal of the Bishops be pleased to accept of this short account of the same.

Thursday the Lord Chief Justice ordered that no student should come there upon pain of his displasure and imprisonment that so there might be room for the Lords. Notwithstanding this order some of the students made their attempt to stay in but were all by the Marshal turned out except myself and one or two more. I counted above thirty noblemen present at the tryal. Mr. Attorney General opened the information which was for writing and publishing a seditious and scandalous libell tending to the subversion of his Majesty's kingly prerogative.

In opening this Mr. Atorney much insisted upon this that no private person could tell a publick minister of justice that he acted illegally or did a thing contrary to law, much less could any person tell the King whether it was by petition, which was but a specious way of libelling the Government, that by this way all the confusion in the late times was brought on.

That his Majesty had set forth his first declaration upon no other consideration then easing a great part of his subjects who had so long suffered by the execution of so many severe laws, and to renew his promises to the Church of England, which because several persons had been perswaded the King would not adhere to these promises, his Majesty that he might bind himself more solemnly had ordered it to be read in all the churches of England; but instead of a gratfull return for this the Bishops had loaded his Majesty and Government with most heavy accusations. The petition was produced and several persons sworn to prove the Bishops hands. Sir F. Exton swore that he believed it to be the Archbishops handwriting; the most that all the other witnesses said was that they beleived the names subscribed to be the Bishops handwriting.

The King's councel desired it might be read, which the Bishops councel, and particularly Mr. Finch oposed, it being not proved to be their hands but only by a beleif, to which the solicitor replyed 'Mr. Finch I remember in Al. Sidneys case you were of another opinion, for though his hand were not proved but by a beleif yet you then pressed it so far that you had the blood of that gentleman.' This came to close to be answered by him so that the matter was left to the Court who divided upon it. Lord Chief Justice and Alibon that it was well proved and Holloway and Powel contrary, at which was a great hum; the King's councel then proceeded to prove their owning it before the King and Councel; all the clarks of the Councel being sworn said to this purpose that the Bishops being asked if that were their hands, they at first refused but then owned it to be their hands but denyed that they ever published it. The Bishops councel swore one of the Archbishop's servants who proved that the Archbishop had not been out of his house of three months before he was commanded to appear before the King so that they insisted much upon this that there being nothing proved but their owning their hands which was no publication there was no act done by them in the county of Middlesex, and the jury at the barr could

judge of nothing done in another country. The solicitor laboured much to bring some of the clarks to say that they owned in Councel that that was the petition which was delivered by them to the King, which none of them could say. Sir G. Treby then offered this, and nothing being proved but the confessing it to be their hands he hoped the denyal of their publishing it should be taken as strong for them as the other was against them, so the whole matter being left to the Court the Lord Chief Justice began to sum up the evidence to the jury, which he began to do very favourably for the Bishops. But Mr. Finch interrupted him saying they had something else to offer, upon which the Lord Chief Justice fell into any great displeasure and refused to go on. By this stop they got opportunity to send for the Lord Sunderland, who after an hour's waiting for him came in and swore that he had introduced the Bishops to the King to present a petition to him, but that he did not see them do it. This being proved the Bishops councel fell upon this that the petition was no libel which was only an humble application to the King that they might not be forced upon reading the declaration and so make themselves guilty of publishing a thing illegal as this declaration was which subverted all the laws of England and by consequence the government, for if the King could dispense with laws eclesiastical he might by the same reason dispence with all the laws that concerned every man's property, and by this all those laws made in so many King's reigns for the keeping out of Popery, were all at once blown up. This point was so fully and boldly spoke to by all their councel that it will fill some sheets of paper. To fortify their arguments against the dispenceing power, they produced the roles of Parliament in the time of Richard the 2nd and the Journals in Charles 2nd concerning the state declaration which were all read; thus they left it.

That which the solicitor most insisted upon was that the Journals was no evidence, no declaration to be taken notice of, and that if the King's declaration were illegal they ought to have staid till the Parliament, and then have represented it to the King, and so by long insisting upon these topicks and their reflecting upon the Government by the petition he leaps over all the arguments against the King's dispenseing power, and so did all the other King's council. Now the evidence came to be sumed up by the Court, and the Lord Chief Justice said it was a libel and well proved.

Holloway, 'I do not take it to be well proved and if it were I doubt much its being a libel.'

Powel 'I think it no libel, nor no way proved, and as for the King's dispensing power I am of opinion he has not nor can by law have any such power for I never found the least footsteps of any such things in all the books I have read, and if he may dispence with laws eclesiastical he may with all law'.

Alibon said nothing to the dispensing power but bent all his retorick upon the petition to make that a factious libel.

Thus was the dispensing power run down without any reply either by councel or judges. The Court being thus divided the matter was left to the jury, and the Court rose having sat from nine till seven. There was great hollowing in the hall when the Bishops came out and so all along the streets, but the solicitor was hissed most part of the way as he went down the hall which put him into a great passion. The jury agreed not till six o'clock this morning and about nine they delivered their verdict which was not guilty, at which was another shout which lasted half an hour, which much enraged the Court.

King's Councel.	*Bishops Councel.*	*The Jury.*
Sir Thomas Powis	Mr. Polexfen	Sir Robert Langley
Sir W. Williams	Sir G. Treby	Sir W. Hill
Serjeant Bolldock	Mr. Summers	Jennings
Sir Bar: Showers	Serjeant Levings	Harriot
Serjeant Trinder	Serjeant Pemberton	Nitingale
Mr. Wright	Mr. Finch	Withers
	Sir Robert Sawyer	Avery
		Astin
		Grice
		Arnold
		Done. Shoreditch.

The Court was extremely crowded. I was there from four in the morning till seven at night. They are making bonfires to night. Judgment is this day given against Hereford Charter."

[The Same] to the Same.

1688, July 3—The great joy and bonfires expressed at the Bishops delivery, occasions great anger. Powell and Holloway will be removed. A gun shot among the rabble at the bonfire, out of Salisbury House by some of the Earl's family, killed a beadle that came to put out the fire.

This day a proclamation came out against debauchery, swearing and drinking. Since the Earl of Sunderland's famous conversion no more converts shew themselves as expected.

On Sunday a fire destroyed all the shops on the walks at Tunbridge.

[The Same] to [the Same.]

1688, July 7. London—On Tuesday Mr. Brent and others accused the Lord Chancellor to the King as a man not wholly for his Majesty's interest. Yesterday Sir John Trevor, Master of the Rolls, Colonel Titus, and Mr. Charles Vane were sworn of the Privy Council. His Majesty said he would establish his Diet and commit the Bishops and clergy to the Ecclesiastical Commissioners, as he may by law. He is not troubled that they were acquitted, but that they encouraged the rabble and a faction to rejoice. The Lord Chancellor came out of the Council to the outer room in great disturbance and spoke severely to the Master of the Rolls.

Cardinal Furstenberg is dangerously ill. It will obstruct the French matters at Cologne if he dies. Lorraine's sickness some say is politic, others that he is poisoned. The attempt we heard of to poison the Prince of Orange is too true.

[The Same] to the Same.

Same date—Concerning Brilliana Smith who denied her marriage though she was with child; and enclosing a prescription for a water for an ulcerated cancer for his mother's use.

The Prescription.—"Scrape lead very thin with a knife, boyle it wel in good spring water, and with it frequently wash the sore. Let it be fresh lead every time you make it, the same wil not serve."

[The Same] to the Same.

1688, July 17—The election of Prince Clement of Bavaria disturbs affairs not a little. Sir J. Norborough is dead, fishing for silver. Sir Thomas Strickland, not the admiral, is sworn of the Privy Council and his Lady deputy Governante to the Prince of Wales. "The order from the Ecclesiastical Commissioners came out yesterday for an account by August 16, who did read and who did not.

Dubourg is extremely ill, I think he is in consumption. I must take a lodging for him at Islington to drink the waters.

[Edward Harley] to Sir Edward Harley.

[16]88, July 21—The enclosed came yesterday by the *Asia*, newly arrived in the Downs. As soon as the letters came I went to the Exchange to take care that the Cyprus wine should not be conveyed to the King's warehouse as the raisins were.

[Robert Harley] to Sir Edward Harley.

[16]88, July 21—Wednesday last I went to Sion. After much discourse upon other business he "spake more freely. 'Wil not Sir E. H[arley] be a privy C[ouncillor].' It was returned, 'he keeps at home and concernes himself with his own affairs.' The same question and answer several times occurred; once dropt, 'I do not advise him.' And as I parted, 'give my humble service, and if he wil come up I wil make him ——.'"

The Judges have orders to give notice of a Parliament in their charges. Baron Rotherham will have Dissenters preach before him every where.

Cologne has forces of all sides marching towards it, for the French faction has declared Cardinal Furstenberg duly elected. Some think a a battle will ensue.

There has been a sort of reconciliation between the Presbyterians and Independents drawn up and signed.

A. P[ye] to Abigail Harley, at Brampton.

1688, July 24. Shellingford—"It is not known who will be Bishop of Oxford. Walker sees too much of the hatred of the people to try for it. The Judges met with a very cold reception there, particularly Holloway, no respect shewn him but quite contrary so that he took notice of it in public, and at Gloucester heard the Bishop preached before them of the consequence of stretching a conscience for any wordly preferment, upon, what will profit to gain the whole world and lose our own souls." *Signet.*

Robert Harley to Sir Edward Harley.

1688, July 26—There is hot talk now of a Parliament, but I suppose the Judges must first return, for there are three gone every circuit to bring a just account of what readiness things are in for an election. It is also said a precedent is found, which shall be followed, to have commissioners in every borough to superintend elections.

The Lord Chancellor's son is married by a priest to the late Earl of Pembroke's daughter. He has decreed her a great estate, though the present Earl will contest it.

BRAMPTON.

1688, July 30—Resignation by Thomas Oulton of the rectory of Brampton. *Signed. Signet.*

[ROBERT HARLEY] to SIR EDWARD HARLEY.

1688, July 31—My father Foley has been "out of order a day or two eating a naughty chesscake."

The author of the Latin answer to Dr. B[urnett]'s letters is Mr. Shelstrat. Le Grand has in three French tomes attempted to refute his *Reformation*, lamely and imprudently. A whale fifty feet long has been killed at Malden in Essex.

[The SAME] to the SAME.

[16]88, August 4—This day brother Edward and I dined with Lord Ch[andos]. I talked freely of elections. He will adhere to the Prince's interest and steer as Sir E[dward] will desire. All the talk is now of a Parliament and it is said that the writs are ordered to be prepared. The King is not well pleased with any that doubt it.

E. H[ARLEY] to SIR EDWARD HARLEY.

[16]88, August 7—Mr. Fisher has told me of a spring upon Malvern Hills that had cured some years since a cancer in a lady's breast, who came from London to use it. Since then it has grown famous for curing sores by bathing them there.

[ROBERT HARLEY] to SIR EDWARD HARLEY.

[16]88, August 7—I have laboured all I can about the Welsh Bibles and put it this day into the best cause I can think of. The whale that came up the river to Malden returned to sea without being taken. Friday and Saturday the Prince of Wales was very sick, but on Saturday upon sucking a brickmaker's wife, of Richmond, though a heretic, strangely recovered. This danger put off the managers of the Corporations from receiving their last instructions as to regulations.

Sir Charles Lyttelton's son has mortally wounded Mr. Brudenell at the camp.

A. PYE to her cousin [ABIGAIL HARLEY?]

1688, August 11. Tunbridge—Here is no great store of company, the Princess, Duke Hamilton, and Irish nobility. I suppose you hear the Prince sucks a tiler's wife, who now will not speak to her husband unless he uses the title of madam.

ROBERT HARLEY to SIR EDWARD HARLEY.

[16]88, August 11—On Wednesday was a sore fire in the wood yards and coal wharfs at "Baynard's Castle." Nearly eighty houses destroyed. Cloudesley, one of the Cornish jury, at whose house Sir Charles Pym was slain had his head broken to pieces with a piece of timber from one of the houses that was blown up.

I hear not yet of any more coming from Holland with pardons, since Mrs. Trenchard. We are told that the Prince is not prayed for in the Princess's chapel in Holland, which he was at first.

The Same to the Same.

[16]88, August 14—"Gifford, President of Magdalen and Bishop of Madora *in partibus infidelium* wil have a red hat, though deny'd to Petre."

The Same to the Same.

1688, September 10—Friday brought in the sad, though feared news. It would have been a comfort if you had seen her. There are five little ones may truly be called orphans, and in the midst of your grief I pray God direct your tender care how to contrive the disposal of them. My Lady, I doubt, will not be pleased with what may be thought on for them unless she be consulted in it, and then, I suppose, may consent to what is proposed. It is probable what their father will do for them, he will at this time, but afterwards will not be so ready. My mother continues pretty well; she has been troubled at your severe journey.

As to Hereford city, Mr. Paul Foley seems secure. Sir W. G[regory] the people have particular "piqes" against, but like him better than Geeres. He says Lord Scudamore told his son he will not stand with you. Sir William, I find, will labour it, for he likes not Sir H[erbert] C[roft], and says he is playing an underhand game. I hear he has engaged about Ledbury for himself though he promised otherwise and told me on Thursday he would stand at Leominster unless he found my friends more than his.

—— to Abigail Harley, at Brampton.

[1688], September 29—His Majesty has received two expresses from Holland, that first brought, that the Prince of Orange had openly declared his resolution for England, and would this Saturday acquaint the States with the whole design and embark on Monday. But the other express brought, that the Prince had put off his going aboard the fleet four days longer, for that the squadrons had not yet joined, nor all his horse and foot embarked.

They talk that His Majesty finding the Prince of Orange's said resolution fixed, has resolved the Queen and young Prince shall the next week go to Portsmouth for fear Her Majesty upon a sudden alarm would be so much frightened as might cause her to mis-carry.

His Majesty taking notice of the nobles that are in town keeping from the Court, the Lord Halifax, Lord Clarendon and Rochester made their appearance this week to avoid suspicion, which is said to be much to His Majesty's satisfaction.

The two regiments of horse that now are raising will be commanded the one by the Marquis of Marchmont—the Lord Feversham's nephew—and the other by the Lord Brandon Gerard, and there are—they say—three regiments of foot to be raised and to be commanded by Colonel Richardson, Mr. Griffin, and Mr. Gage; the latter being in Flanders is sent for home.

A train of twenty-six pieces and four mortars are got ready and are to march on Monday morning to Finchley Common northwards where several regiments are to rendez-vous, and immediately upon the news of the Dutch landing His Majesty will set up and display his standard on Blackheath. And as his preparations by land so those by sea are in great forwardness, for on Monday next there will be forty-two men of war together, which number in ten days will increase to fifty.

The commission of Sir Roger Strecklon [Strickland] he being a Roman Catholic I hear is suspended, and so the Lord Dartmouth is Admiral, Sir Richard Haddock Vice Admiral, and Sir John Berry, Rear Admiral.

The Commissioners of the Customs have received orders to dispatch immediate directions to the officers in the several ports to be continually upon the spy and upon sight of the enemy's fleet, to send an express to Court.

Yesterday a Chapter being held, the Dukes of Ormond and Berwick were admitted Knights Companions and invested with the George and Garter accordingly.

Yesterday the seven Bishops with the Bishop of London and several others were to attend the King, but there appeared but six, the Archbishop of Canterbury being indisposed and the Bishop of London in the country. His Majesty had them brought to him in his bedchamber and was pleased to speak to them to this purpose, that he would preserve the Church and make what further laws shall be fit in reference thereto, that he would revoke the suspension of the Bishop of London and restore Magdalen College, that he would supersede the Ecclesiastical Commission and never again issue out another or grant any *mandamus* to either University or College but permit them to transact without any let or interruption, that in the matter of dispensing power he will in the next Parliament give such satisfaction to his two houses as he and they shall adjust the bounds without difficulty.

NEWSLETTER.

1688, October 23. Whitehall—Yesterday the Lords Spiritual and Temporal now in town being summoned to attend His Majesty in the Council Chamber and the Queen Dowager together with most of the Ladies and Gentlewomen who had been attending on the Queen's person during her being with child or present when she was delivered of the Prince of Wales and the physicians that had attended during that time being all come into the Council Chamber, His Majesty declared to them the reason of their being called thither, which was as followeth:— That by reason the malice of His Majesty's enemies had spread abroad some reports concerning the Prince of Wales as if he had not been His Majesty's but a "suppose" child, and His Majesty expecting the Prince of Orange with the first eastwardly wind when His Majesty intended to go in person at the head of the army, and not knowing what might happen, His Majesty being like other men and subject to accidents, His Majesty was desirous to prevent any disturbance which might happen for the future concerning the Prince of Wales. Though His Majesty was well assured that their Lordships had no doubts concerning that matter, and that knowing His Majesty's conversation, and how tender he had ever been of the liberty and property of his subjects, and that it was his principle always to do as he would be done by, for that is the law and the prophets, and also their Lordships knowing how kind a father His Majesty had ever been to his other children, His Majesty was well assured their Lordships could not think him either so ignorant as to be imposed upon in that manner, or so great a villain as he must needs be should he go about to wrong his other children so.

After which His Majesty desired the Queen Dowager to declare what she knew concerning the Queen being brought to bed.

Whereupon she declared that as soon as the King sent to her to come to the Queen's labour she came immediately and was with the Queen till she was delivered of a son.

Then the Marchioness of Powis, Countess of Peterborough, Countess of Sunderland, Countess of Lichfield, Countess of Arran, Countess of Roscommon, Countess of Fingall, Lady Sophia Bulkley, Mrs. Dawson, Mrs. Bromley, Mrs. La Badie, and about twelve or thirteen other ladies and gentlewomen; and after them my Lord Chancellor, Lord President, Earl of Middleton, Earl of Mulgrave, Earl of Feversham, Earl of Murray, Earl of Melford, Sir Steven Fox and some others did declare upon oath their knowledge touching the birth of the Prince of Wales the sum whereof were as followeth:—

That the Queen being ill in the morning, after she was up ordered a pallet bed to be got ready for her in the Bedchamber, but the pallet bed not being aired Mrs. Dawson who was then alone with her persuaded her majesty to let her own bed to be made ready again for her, which the Queen consenting to, her bed was made and warmed with a warming pan of hot coals of fire, after which the Queen went to bed again; then the Queen Dowager and most of the persons above named being in the room the Queen had several pains which lasted for some time, after which the most part of Lords and Ladies there saw the midwife bring the child from between the clothes and laying it in a linen cloth, gave it to Mrs. La Badie and held up the after-birth.

That Mrs. La Badie carried immediately into the little bedchamber where all the Lords followed and saw her open the cloth saying, it was what they all desired, a son.

And my Lord Chancellor said a steam came from it as from a new born child. My Lord Middleton said it was foul as a new-born child. Sir Steven Fox said it was as a new-born child, and the Ladies declared some that they had seen the Queen milk her breasts during her being with child, others that they had frequently seen milk upon the Queen's smocks, and some that they had seen the Queen's belly during that time.

The Physicians declared that at the instance of the ladies they cut the navel string, from whence flowed lukewarm blood, which they mixed with black cherry water and gave the child to prevent fits. Mrs. Pierce the laundress and wife to Pierce the chirurgeon declared upon oath that the Queen's linen during the time of lying-in was as the linen of a child-bed woman used to be, and the midwife deposed that she delivered the Queen of the Prince of Wales.

After all which the King himself was pleased to declare that besides that His Majesty had felt the child stirring in the Queen's belly, above twenty times during her being with child, His Majesty as he had usually done at the birth of his other children, had laid his hand upon the Queen's stomach, during her being in labour, to keep the child from coming back, and that he followed the child down with his hand till he could tell them it was coming into the world.

His Majesty further told the Lords that the Princess being with child at this time did not stir out of her chamber, and therefore could not now be present without some danger, that his Majesty was loth to hazard one child for the preservation of another, but if the Lords desired it the Queen and the Princess should both be sent for, at which the Lords unanimously cried "No, No."

Sir, I have given you as particular a relation as my memory could recollect, which I hope may not prove tedious since it is concerning an affair of so great importance and does so apparently contradict the many stories which had been spread about that every one is curious enough to be entertained with more particulars concerning it than my memory will serve to repeat.

My Lord Dartmouth is now supposed to be got to the Gunfleet, and we have an account from Sir Bulstrode in Flanders that the Governor having sent to the States to know upon what pretence they intended to send such forces out of their country into England at a time when the King of France threatened those parts, the States made answer that the Prince of Orange intended no ill to the King, Queen, or Prince of Wales, but the design he had was that which would very much redound to the benefit of all those parts, which could not be effected without securing the protestant religion in England.

A. Pye to Abigail Harley, at Brampton.

1688, October 28. London—"We have the Irish all round about us quartered, which doth extremely disturb all, but chiefly the trades-people; more are expected in a little time. An express came a Thursday from Abbeville that said the Dutch fleet had suffered greatly by the stormy weather this day sennight so as they were forced to throw overboard many of their horses, but three expresses are come in to-day not confirming this news, which is now looked upon as false. They are still expected. God grant all changes and turns that we must expect may be for the good of His Church and people. In a little time you will see in print what was sworn last Monday by the lords and ladies concerning the Prince of Wales's birth. The men are grown very learned, it is shameful to hear what discourse is common amongst them, even to footmen and lackeys; but I forget the proclamation come out this evening to forbid talking or writing of state affairs upon peril."

Robert Harley to his father, Sir Edward Harley, at Brampton.

[16]88, October 31—We could not get from Stoke till yesterday; called at Castleditch and very well received. He has not taken his commissions yet, will see what others do. To-day my brother parted for Oxford. Here is no good account of news. Hereford charter was discharged on Saturday and the old one set up. "The wind having been easterly makes people report the enemy are landed."

A. Pye to Abigail Harley, at Brampton.

1688, December 13—"Public news letters say your father and brother were gone to meet other gentlemen that are risen. Thank God there is like to be no fighting, all people being of a mind. I know it can be no news to tell you of the King, Queen, and young prince being [gone], and since all the Lords and city have invited the Prince of Orange, which we all pray may come quickly that a stop may be put to the fury of the rabble who have done great mischief. All the train bands were able to do yesterday was [to] keep them from pulling Powis House down. They have taken all the plate from the Spanish Ambassador and made that a ruinated place; but the alarm last night that in every part of the town did very much fright and terrify people as it is not to be told, and I am yet to learn any true ground for their fears, but the watch called all up, that the Irish were near, and at Knightsbridge had killed man, woman, and child, and were resolved for to fire and massacre. I bless God I was not much frighted as might be expected. All the friends I had, sent to enquire of me to-day. I hope God will preserve us. I am a little melancholy now I draw near my time, and to be without my mother, and so few friends near me. My Lord Chancellor was taken

yesterday in a disguise at Wapping, is in the Tower, was like to have been pulled in pieces by the rabble. It is said the King is taken in the river by fishermen."

[HEREFORDSHIRE.]

1688, December—A list of subscribers to the loan for the Prince of Orange. Including Sir John Morgan, 100*l.*, Sir Edward Harley, 50*l.*, Paul Foley, 50*l.* *Annexed is a copy of a letter from the Prince to Lord Herbert of Chirbury, dated Newbury, December 11th, 1688, recommending that a loan should be proposed.*

J. E—— to ——

[16]88, December 15—The Irish part of the King's army on their leaving Reading at the coming of the Prince's army thither, withdrew in a body. They marched peaceably away till they were got some considerable distance from the Prince's, and then began to plunder, kill and destroy. "Brommigam" is said to be burned, and it is thought they are by this time at Wolverhampton.

J. D. COLT to his kinsman, ROBERT HARLEY.

[16]88–[9], January 14—Yesterday at our chamber we elected your brother Edward our recorder. Pray acquaint him of it. Mr. Charles Baldwin had five votes and your brother had thirteen.

ROBERT PRICE to SIR EDWARD HARLEY, a member of the Convention, in London.

1688[-9], January 22. Foxley—Complaining of the treatment he received at the election at Weobley from Sir John Morgan.

[ROBERT HARLEY] to SIR EDWARD HARLEY, at the door of the House of Commons.

1688-9, January 22—This place is now in many respects melancholy. Though we dare not wish you here, we daily see our want of you; but I trust God will direct you where you are called to the public benefit.

It is generally reported among "the common sort that the Convention wil recal the King. It is scarce to be thought how the generality are affected with it and speak of those they hear are the contrivers of it with great indignation and that it will be the certain ruine of England. The report hath damped the marketts. It began to stir specially at Ludlow yesterday."

Just now your letter brings the account of your safe arrival. The seal had been opened and closed again with a thumb.

"Mr. Probart came at the election, to Radnor, brought about one hundred burgesses from Raidar [Rhayader] for Mr. Williams, but upon the Bailive's refusal to admit them—or some such words—demanded a pole for himself, was refused, and Mr. Williams returned." As to the County, Mr. R. R. "said they were meditating strong opposition against next time, and that he was privately told, Colonel Cornwall was to be set up to oppose Sir E. H[arley]." There is talk that "many gentlemen are resolved never to vote for Sir E. H[arley] more. One

thing objected to him is he made no speech when elected as Sir S. M. did." I find they are all buoyed up with a conceit of Sir S. M.'s great interest in the Prince's favour. I suppose you will see to fix the interest of the Earl of Kent, Lord Weymouth, and Lord Chandos.

—— to Robert Harley, at Brampton.

[16]88–9, January 24. London—Colonel Hambleton sent from the Prince to Tyrconnell is upon his return and daily expected from the Prince. The Lord Deputy lately sent two regiments to reduce Enniskillen, but the town opposed them, beat and disarmed them. Sixteen regiments of foot and two thousand horse have or will begin their march for Bristol and West Chester to be transported to Ireland.

The Lord Forbes had a pass from the Prince to go to France, but we hear he is landed in Ireland and designs to raise men for the King.

The regiments designed for the service of the States of Holland are all named by the Prince, and will early this spring be sent over. We hear the Earl of Sutherland, the Lord Cardross and Sir Matthew Hume and other Scotch gentlemen have petitioned the Prince in favour of the Presbyterian clergy in Scotland.

On Monday the [ ] of the parliament being put off, we hear the same must be restored from out of act of Parliament before another term can be held. Several learned lawyers are under the Prince's consideration for judges to fill up the present vacancies in the several courts as "Sir Robert Attkis, Sir Creswell Levyns, Sir William Dollbyn, Sir John Holt, Sir William Nevell, Mr. Whitelocke and Mr. Bradbury."

There is a report that the Earl of Gainsborough is dead. Major Wildman is very ill. The Lord Chancellor cannot live many days. Yesterday the Lord Lucas, Lord Lieutenant of the Tower, went to the House of Lords in the Lord Chancellor's coach and acquainted their Lordships that he expected to hear of his death every minute. The Lords have appointed Friday to begin their grand debate about settling the government. Most believe that the Prince and Princess of Orange will be crowned, and that if they die without issue the succession shall be secured to the Princess of Denmark, though there are several other projects discoursed of.

We hear his Grace the Archbishop of Canterbury sent the Bishop of London to the Prince assuring His Highness it was only his indispositions that kept him from the Convention, and that he did and would in all things concur with what his brethren the Bishops acted, and had appointed the Lord of London to vote as his proxy.

The report of a letter sent by the King to the Prince, and from his Highness sent down to the House of Lords is wholly false, though it is said the Lord Chief Justice Herbert who is at present Lord Keeper to the King, hath written over His Majesty's propositions to some peers which it is said are very condescending.

"Yesterday about ten the Commons met according to their adjournment, where after prayers were read—in which the prayers for the King were skipped over—the Commons appointed a committee to draw up a letter for the Speaker to sign, wherein he prays His Highness to issue out His circulary letters to supply all vacant elections of members of Parliament. They adjourned the House till Saturday at ten. In the meantime the Committee for Elections are appointed to sit every afternoon. Colonel Birch is chairman of the Committee. On Saturday the Commons have appointed to call over their house, and on Monday to enter upon the grand debate of the nation. The House of Lords are about the murther of the Earl of Essex, in which affair Mr. Bradon

was [called] before their Lordships, who gave their Lordships a large account of that murther and informed the House he had twelve witnesses that would plainly make it appear that the said Earl were murthered, and the centinel who stood at the doore of the Earl of Essex declared that two men were let into the Earl's lodgings, after which they heard a great struggling in the chamber.

His Highnesse the Prince very much presses the dispatch of theyr debates, that so the preservation of Holland may be considered of against the threats of France. We hear the Earl of Salisbury again makes profession of the Protestant Religion, being regained *per* the great paynes and piety of the Reverend Dr. Tillottson."

[The Same] to the Same.

[1689,] January 26. London—Last letters from Ireland continue to give an account of the unsettled posture of that kingdom; that six thousand Protestants are now in arms in the north near Enniskillen, and that the Earl of Mount Alexander, and Sir Arthur Ruyden have a body together in the county of Down of seven thousand and have possessed themselves of Belfast. That besides the number up in the north, several thousands are ready in other parts of that kingdom to join the English forces so soon as they shall land, and the Protestants daily in great numbers ship into the north being affrighted at the apprehensions they have of a massacre. Tyrconnell expects a supply of men and ammunition speedily from France, but it is thought it will be a difficult task to convey either as the Dutch fleet stands.

Yesterday the House of Lords met, but they entered not upon the grand debate of the nation as was expected, but dispatched some private affairs, as admitting the Duke of Northumberland into the House of Peers; also the Lord Griffyn's patent was read and found complete and his lordship was likewise admitted and took his seat in the House. Then the Lord Mordaunt brought in a petition from the Earl of Peterborough, in which his Lordship prayed he might be admitted to bail, which was seconded by the Lord Viscount Faulconbridge and some other lords, but the Lord Delamere opposing the same for several reasons, the same was put off for some few days, but his lordship in the meantime is ordered the liberty of the Tower.

Yesterday the Bishop of Oxford read prayers in the House of Lords, wherein his lordship read those for the King, but the Lord of Bristol on Wednesday skipped them over.

Yesterday the persons committed upon suspicion of being concerned in the murder of the Earl of Essex were by order of the Lords brought before the Committee appointed for that affair, but we don't hear the issue. Then the House having deferred the grand debate till Tuesday adjourned till Monday.

It is said the Bishops are very harmonious in all things, so that it is not doubted but we shall have a speedy settlement of our present unhinged government. The witnesses last night examined by the Committee of Lords concerning the Earl of Essex's death are these vizt:—Major Richardson of Newgate, Lloyd the soldier who was sentinel at the Earl's lodgings, Major Webster who was bailiff for the Tower Liberty, Mistress Ralplin a young maid, Mistress Muncke a young gentlewoman, Mistress Cadman formerly a bookseller in the New Exchange, now a prisoner in the Kings Bench, the [ ], and Mr. Munday one of the warders. The substance of the examination is kept secret and the Committee have adjourned till Tuesday next. This day

the House of Commons met according to their adjournment and called over their House and adjourned till Monday, which they design for their grand debate. The Prince hath very lately taken a view of the lodgings in Whitehall and hath given orders to some persons of quality that have their apartments there to remove, whence it is concluded the Princess is daily expected. We hear all the great places of trust and profit in this kingdom will be managed by commissions. It is said Dr. Oates on Monday will petition both Houses for his liberty, setting forth the hard and unjust sentence he hath so long suffered. It is whispered that the Prince and Princess of Orange will be proclaimed King and Queen of England next week. It is said Dr. Burnett is preparing a sermon to preach before the House of Commons on Thursday next the day appointed for public thanksgiving.

Letters from Scotland mention that the rabble continue their insolency, having lately haled the mayor of Aberdeen about the town with a rope about his neck, and forced him to hang two dogs he had, the one of which in derision he called *Presbyter* the other *Puritan*—or *Quaker*, as some—and afterwards committed the Mayor to prison.

[The Same] to [the Same.]

[16]88-9, January 29. London—Yesterday the House of Commons met according to their late adjournment and there being a full house, after some preliminary debates the House dissolved into a grand com mittee, choosing for their Speaker Mr. Hampden Junior, by which was easily guessed how their other debates would succeed, after which the House came to the grand question, vizt., whether the King by his mal-administration and his deserting the government, the same was not again devolved into the hands of the people. But this was opposed by the Lord Fanshaw, Sir Christopher Musgrave, Sir Robert Sawyer, Mr. Finch, late solicitor; the two latter made speeches against it, but all their objections were fully answered by Serjeant Maynard, Sir G. Treby, and others who illustrated the King's misgovernment from several heads, as the wresting of ancient charters from corporations, the doctrine of the King's dispensing power which laid all penal statutes on their backs, the vexation that proceeded from Spiritual Courts &c. After which the House proceeded and passed the vote—only one or two dissenting—vizt., that King James the Second having endeavoured to subvert the constitutions of the kingdom by breaking the original contract between King and people, and by advice of Jesuits and other wicked persons having violated the fundamental laws and having withdrawn himself out of the kingdom, hath thereby abdicated the government and the throne thereby vacated; after which the House voted the concurrence of the Lords might be desired, and that Mr. Hampden go to the House of Lords the next morning to desire the same.

Yesterday the House of Lords met according to their adjournment. The earl of Peterborough preferred his petition, praying to be admitted to bail, but the same as before was rejected.

The prayers prepared for the Thanksgiving were also viewed and ordered some alterations, as also that the prayers for the King's victory over his enemies be left out and part of the Litany; the whole was referred to a committee.

A messenger was sent to Oswestry in Shropshire and we hear the Earl of Castlemayne is taken by him into custody. It is believed he will be committed to the Tower in order to give an account of his embassy to Rome.

Letters from France say the King of Great Britain hath removed his court from St. Germains to the palace of "Madame Montesparo" which is a mile and half from Versailles where the French King keeps his court. The King and Queen are in health, and His Majesty hath been several times a hunting with the Dauphin and Queen, and at the public plays and operas. The Marquis of Powis is created Duke of Powis being the first act of the great seal since His Majesty's quitting the kingdom. Further from France by a vessel put into Dartmouth that came out of Brest with six large men-of-war bound for Ireland with two thousand men on board, besides money and ammunition &c. We have also advice that a vessel is put into Cork in Ireland carrying twenty-six guns with arms and ammunition, some say the King is on board these ships. Several men-of-war are ordered to go on the Irish coasts to prevent if possible this succour.

The House of Commons met according to their adjournment, and passed a vote upon the Irish news that one of the members attend the prince in the name of the House, and praying His Highness that the forces designed for Ireland embark with all expedition. The House also moved that by sad experience we have found that a popish king is inconsistent with a protestant kingdom, and for the future no popish prince shall ascend the throne. It was also moved that His Highness be addressed so that an embargo be put on all vessels bound for any port in France, and that a prohibition be put to the importation of the commodities of that country. It was also voted that eight several heads of grievances be drawn up by a committee appointed for that purpose which are to be redressed and subscribed to by prince or princess that shall ascend the throne; after which the House adjourned till to-morrow.

This day the House of Lords met according to their adjournment to debate the grand affair, where, after the dispatch of some preliminaries, the House dissolved into a grand committee and chose for their Speaker the Earl of Danby. The Lords were very warm in their disputes; several sharp speeches were made by the Earls of Macclesfield and Abingdon and others, some of which made the Bishops very uneasy; but these heats abating, in conclusion it was put to the vote, whether during the life of King James the Second there is a regency or non-regency; this was carried in the negative by the plurality of three voices, there being fifty-two Lords for the non-regency and forty-nine for the regency; of the latter number were all the Bishops but the Lords of London and Bristol, and all the Dukes but Norfolk, after which the House went upon a concurrence with the Commons and are still sitting.

Robert Harley to Sir Edward Harley.

1688–9, January 29—I know not if this come to your hands, there is such work made at Ludlow with opening all such letters as come to this house, and probably all that go hence. Henceforth I shall number all my letters as this that you may know if any miscarry. I have secured the most of the burgesses of Radnor. Not twenty besides the twenty-five are against me. *Numbered* 3 *in red ink.*

The Same to the Same.

Same date—I could not venture by Ludlow post a letter of any business, therefore I send this by Leominster. I found all my letters

sent through Ludlow were opened, so I resolved to send to the postmaster about it, but a letter came in the meantime to my sister M[artha] from a person in the town to inform of the whole matter, and inserted some passages of your letters that were publicly read by Mr. Richard Price who calls himself governor there. I immediately sent W. P. there who went to the postmaster and "demanded how Mr. H[arley]'s letters came to be opened. He could not help it. Lieutenant Price did. Where is he to be spoken with? In the house now. When he told him came swearing and damning down staires—'Where is he come to huff the Postmaster.' 'I came to inquire how the letters came to be opened.' Swearing again, 'I opened them and had orders for it, and will do it again'; and then continued railing from one topic to another and swearing." When P. told him that I intended to acquaint Lord Herbert with his doings, this dashed him much. He said Sir E. H[arley] is president of Wales, and he and his son continually abused Sir S. M.

I intend to go to Radnor on Monday to be sworn common burgess in your right. I have engaged above sixty of the common burgesses of Radnor which are eighty odd altogether, and all Knighton and Knucklas, except four, which are about a hundred and twenty. I have got some, I think, of the twenty-five. I should be very glad if Sir R. Gwynne could be fixed for me, and that his brother would stir for me. It was upon his brother's desire I desisted, which should be an inducement to him. Sir S. M. intends to resign his place of "capital" to his brother James, Mr. Price having so strengthened himself since at Weobly.

It is a great mercy God was so merciful in the first days of your meeting. I hope a gracious issue will succeed to yesterday's consultation. If the K[ing] be owned to be so still, we are in constant danger, and it will give great discontent. *Numbered* 4, *in red ink*.

[Robert Harley] to Richard P[rice], at Ludlow.

[16]88–9, January 29—Acknowledging the receipt of three post letters and expostulating at his opprobrious language and the opening of his letters. *Copy*.

Robert Price to Sir Edward Harley, a member of the Convention, at Westminster.

1688[-9], January 30. Foxley—Concerning the disturbances at Ludlow.

——— to [Robert Harley.]

[16]88–9, January 31. London—Yesterday Dr. Sharpe preached at St. Margaret's at Westminster before the House of Commons, according to their appointment. His text Psalms 51, 'Deliver me from blood guiltiness.' He had several expressions which were taken notice of, as that king killing and king dethroning or deposing of kings was popish doctrine, and in his prayer before sermon he prayed for the king, queen &c. as the form is.

The House of Commons met about two according to their adjournment; and it was moved in the House whether they should return the Doctor thanks for his sermon, but it was carried in the negative; after which the House adjourned till Friday morning.

The Committee appointed to draw up heads of government grievances, have already finished, about twelve, and are preparing more, which will be viewed and confirmed by the whole House.

From France, that the Duke of Berwick and Lord Arran are raising two regiments each consisting of forty companies.

The French King hath published an instrument inviting all discarded officers and soldiers which belonged to the English army, into his service, promising them the same pay which the king their master gave them.

It is discoursed the French king hath sent to Constantinople, that all the English effects should be seized, or he will quit all correspondence with the Grand Seignior.

Major Jones and three or four officers in Colonel Richards' regiment are displaced. The Scotch regiment of dragoons are returned to Scotland in some disorder, carrying some of their officers with them.

It is said the Princess of Denmark lately received a letter from her sister, the Princess of Orange, dated from the Brill, where her Royal Highness was ready to go on board in order to pass over for England.

Yesterday Mr. Wake preached before the Prince at St. James's, his text, "Rend your hearts and not your garments.' His sermon was very well liked of, wherein he much extolled the pious undertaking of the Prince.

The Bishop of Gloucester preached before the Princess of Denmark at Whitehall, where most of the Lords were, there being no sermon in the Abbey as usually.

A man was seized yesterday in the Court of Request for distributing papers exciting to establish a commonwealth; and the day before another was seized for giving out he would kill the Prince.

Sir John Hamer's regiment that is now in Hull is ordered for Ireland and twenty others which the commanders are filling up.

Yesterday the House of Peers met according to their adjournment, and they assumed their debate about concurring with the vote passed on Monday by the House of Commons: upon which the House came to this resolution, that the King leaving the kingdom and deserting the government made a vacancy in the throne; after which the House adjourned till three this afternoon. There were fifty-four Lords for this vote and forty-three negatives, so that it was carried by the plurality of three voices.

Yesterday the great lawyers gave their opinions to the House of Lords, that there was an original compact between king and people; after which the House went on the word *abdicated*, and altered it to *deserted;* the other words in the Commons' vote, vizt. *and the throne thereby vacated*, the House are now upon.

Last night one Thursby a priest was seized in Pall Mall and carried before the [ ] Banting and after examination committed.

The envoys from the Electors of Brandenburgh and Bavaria have assured His Highness that their masters will oppose the French to their utmost power, and will never make any peace with the King without the consent of His Highness and the States General.

[Robert Harley] to Sir Edward Harley.

[16]88-9, February 1—On Wednesday Mr. Price came here just as I was going to church, at first he denied opening the letters and speaking many of the words. After much talk he desired that it might be forgotten and forgiven and that no such thing should be done any more. He was very sorry and designed no affront. So we parted, he to horse

and I to church, and quickly two pistols were fired in the street before the church. It is a mercy to the nation what yours brought just now. I trust an equal settlement of religion may be produced. Sir H. and others say "Sir E. H[arley] is very worthy but not for the church." I intend to go to Radnor on Monday and be admitted a common burgess. If the House continues and Mr. Probart be not taken off, the election is void, he having been denied a poll. *Numbered* 6 *in red ink.*

[The Same] to the Same.

1688–9, February 7—Yesterday being the inauguration of James II. was observed by the parsons in several places. The difference between the Lords and Commons is reported higher in many places than I hope it is. If there be delay to the prejudice both of Holland and Ireland it may be guessed whose hand is in it all. *Torn.*

[The Same] to the Same.

1688–9, February 8 — The proceedings of the Commons give satisfaction to all persons to the full. *Numbered* 7 *in red ink.*

[Robert Harley] to Sir Edward Harley.

1688–9, February 12—Your letter brought the happy tidings of the union in the two Houses, and I hope the beginning of a just settlement to the nation. "If orders come for the proclaiming the King it shal be endevored to be don in the best manner, as also to keep Thursday as becomes a day of praise." Little Aby is better. I have got mares milk for her. *Numbered* 10 *in red ink.*

[The Same] to the Same.

1688–9, February 14—This day was solemnly observed here with a very great congregation and a very excellent sermon. *Numbered* 11 *in red ink.*

Sir E[dward] H[arley] to [Robert Harley].

[16]88[9], February 14—Yesterday both Houses attended the King and the Queen at the Banquetting House, and presented the enclosed declaration. The King holding the Queen's hand said it was a very great trust which he would discharge faithfully, and the advice of the Lords and Commons should be the counsel he would follow. "Yesterday after the acceptation and immediately at Whitehal Gate, the two Speakers, Duke of Norfolk, Lord Marshall, Earl of Lindsey, Lord Great Chamberlain with many other lords, heralds, and trumpeters proclaimed the enclosed proclamation. Thence went to Temple Bar, there mett by the Lord Mayor, Aldermen &c in formalities and proclaimed in the Citty. This day in the suburbs." Last night Sir Robert Wright, late Chief Justice, was seized and placed in Newgate.

Sir Edward Harley to Robert Harley, at Brampton.

[16]88[–9], February 16—The Earl of Wiltshire is Lord Chamberlain to the Queen. The Commissioners of the Treasury are Lord Mordaunt, Lord Lumley, Sir Robert Howard, Sir Henry Capel, and the Chancellor of the Exchequer, who it is said, will be Mr. Whitlock.

The Same to [the Same.]

1688[-9], February 19—The King in robes and crown sent the Black Rod for the House of Commons in the Lords House yesterday. After thanks ordered, the Commons adjourned the consideration of the speech to be this day in the committee of the whole House. Lady Hobart died yesterday of the small pox.

[Robert Harley] to Sir Edward Harley.

1688-9, February 20. Hereford—"The little ones are very pert and merry. Betty improves in language very much, continually talking of her 'Dampader.'"

Thursday the Thanksgiving day we concluded with a bonfire, which set all the neighbourhood about the same. The slight "observation" by the clergy of the day gave great offence. "There was one said in church he could have found in his heart to shot the rural dean. He praied for King J[ames], Prince &c. Some care should be taken concerning them, else it may encorage them to set up and forme a party that may be troblesome. The news that the convention will be declared a Parliament is very acceptable, though many are disappointed. I find Mr. Williams continues to write that Sir E. H[arley] assists Probert, that they from R[adnor] must come up and defend their charter."

I trouble you with an account of what was done yesterday and Monday. On Saturday I sent to Hereford one to stay and bring an account when the proclamation and orders came for proclaiming the King. "Monday morning I had word the Coroner would do it on Tuesday, the Mayor having done it on Monday, and had sent to the gentlemen of the country to come in." I wrote to those in our hundred and went to Leominster with thirty six horse and two trumpets. I sent the troop before to Sir H. C[roft] to desire his company. He could not then come but said he would be at Hereford next day. "Mr. Georges was there very complimental. The troop attend the Bailive the four places of making proclamation, and gave four vollies. After the Bailive invited the gentlemen to a treat of wine and sweetmeats in the chamber. That night I went home and the next day for Hereford with three trumpets and about fifty horse. The Coroner met us at Wigmarsh Gate. We attended him to the Castle, where the troop drawn up in one line drew their swords and attended the reading the Proclamation—but the declaration was not read—; then the trumpetts and eight drums with the the shouts of the people proclaimed their joy. Then the troop gave two vollies, and the cannon though unmounted, made a shift to be twice discharged. Thence we followed the coroner to the Shire Hall where proclamation made but no swords drawn. We gave two vollies more." I dined at the Fleece with several gentlemen. "I gave a bonfire heer and a hogshead of cyder. Fireworks were wel designed but did pretty much fail in the execution."

The Same to the Same.

1688-9, February 23. Hereford—On Wednesday I proclaimed the King at Wigmore and came hither next day.

Sir Edward Harley to Robert Harley, at Brampton.

[16]88[-9], March 2—There is much talk of raising soldiers for Ireland upon the alarm of the late King's preparation to go into that

country or Scotland. As yet the Judges are not known nor Justices made. It is said many people abscond. "God be gracious to little Abi. I hope toothing is the caus. I think some proper decoction of herbs and raysins, such as may not palk her stomach, and in it some syrup of rhubarb and succory, might be good for her."

——— to Robert Harley.

[16]88[-9, March 2. London—At the Committee of Grievances, *ultimo die* February [16]88-9. 1° Resolved, That it is the opinion of this committee that the rights of the City of London in the election of sheriffs in the year [16]82 were invaded and that such invasion was illegal and grievous.

2°. Resolved *nemine contradicente*, That it is the opinion of the committee that the judgments given upon the *quo warranto* against the City of London were illegal and grievous.

3°. Resolved, That the prosecution of *quo warranto's* against the two Universities, the towns corporate, boroughs in the ports and plantations, and the judgments thereupon, and the surrenders of charters to the violation of their ancient rights, are illegal and grievous.

4°. Resolved. That the commissions and instructions for regulating Corporations and putting the tests in order to elect members of parliament are illegal and grievous.

5°. That the promising of votes to take off the penal laws and test is a violation of the rights of parliament and a grievance.

6°. That the electing of customs and part of the Excise, between the death of King Charles the 2nd—when these duties were determined—and parliaments that were afterwards, was illegal and grievous.

7°. That the levying of money otherwise than the law allows, and the disarming of protestants and quartering of soldiers contrary to the law, is grievous.

8°. Resolved, That the whole House be moved to grant a particular committee to examine into the matters aforesaid and into the authors and advisers thereof.

Yesterday Mr. Wharton declared to the House a message from His Majesty, vizt. that he found the act of chimney money grievous to the subject, and therefore left it to their consideration the taking of it away, not doubting but this parliament would take care for the revenues of the Crown, upon which the House ordered an address of thanks to be given to His Majesty, which accordingly was immediately drawn up. The whole House agreed to attend His Majesty with the same, and ordered the members of the Privy Council to know when he will be attended.

Mr. Hampden reports from His Majesty there are divers cabals against the government about the town and that some are already secured, and if His Majesty should set them at liberty, it might not be safe, therefore he desired the advice of the House. The House returned the King thanks, and ordered a Committee to be appointed to draw up a temporary Bill to enable His Majesty to secure His Majesty and take into custody such as are or shall be secured for conspiring against the government, or for suspending the execution of the *habeas corpus* Act to the first day of Easter term.

Sir Robert Howard reports from the Committee appointed to inspect the revenues of the kingdom that the yearly revenue was 150,000*l.* besides the additional duties on sugar and tobacco.

The Earl of Arran was on Thurday committed to the Tower. The Earl of Penmure and Sir Robert Hamilton are at liberty, and the former is gone for Scotland. A messenger is sent after Duke Hamilton, but it is believed he is in Scotland. A great many [persons are] discovered to be in this association and [the mess]engers are all busied in apprehe[nding them].

Sir John Guise is made Governor of Portsmouth in the room of the Duke of Grafton who is removed from all his preferments.

The Great Seal is committed to the management of Serjeant Maynard, Serjeant Keck and Serjeant Rawlinson.

Yesterday their Majesties went to Hampton Court, where they design to continue for some days. The bed of State is removed from Windsor to Hampton Court, and Sir Christepher Wren hath received orders to beautify and add some new building to that fabric, their Majesties taking much delight in it for its present situation.

One Hesse a priest was this day seized in the lobby before the House of Commons and carried before the House of Lords and examined this afternoon by a committee, and is committed to the Gate House: he was formerly of Peterhouse in Cambridge.

Yesterday the Lords agreed with the Commons vote for standing by His Majesty with their lives and fortunes &c. French letters say that the late king of England is returned from Brest to St. Germains-en-laye, and that he is seized with a kind of palsy and so ill that the French King's doctors believe that he is not long lived.

[The Same] to the Same.

1688-9, March 5. London—Sir Thomas Littleton reports the amendments to the Bill for the securing the kingdom in this time of danger.

We hear fourteen regiments are ordered to march towards the seaside for Ireland which will be the latter end of this week. Twelve men-of-war are ready to receive them; two regiments are marched to the borders of Scotland to keep peace and quietness there.

Many commissions are daily given out to noblemen who have great interest in their countries and will soon complete their levies, men come in very fast.

These have commissions for regiments viz.:—

"Duke Ormond	2	four of which Regiments are horse.
Marquess Winchester	2	
Earl Devonshire	1	
Earl of Kingston	1	
Lord Lovelace	1	
Lord Mordant	1	
Lord Herbert Cherberry	1	
Earl of Rosamond	1	
Earl of Droheda	1	
Viscount Castleton	1	
Viscount Lisbone	1	
Viscount Fitzhardin	1	
Sir Henry Bellassis	1	
Sir Edward Dearing"	1	

We have advice from Paris that the late king of England was taken with a quinsy for which he was let blood under the tongue which gave him much ease, so that the story of his going aboard a squadron of French men-of-war is only a flying report.

The vain-glorious French King hath caused a medal to be made, on the one side of which His Majesty is represented fighting with all the princes of Europe at once with this motto, *Solus contra omnes*; on the reverse is his effigy again with his late Majesty of England sitting in his chair on his right hand with this motto *Sede ad dextram* &c. Letters from Rome advise that the Pope hath invited their late Majesties of England to retire and make their abode at Rome.

EDWARD HARLEY to his brother, ROBERT HARLEY.

1688[–9], March 5—The preferment of some men to places of trust that were the promoters of tyranny, and the disregard of those that always opposed it, occasions some discontent and reflections, lest the goverument should slip into the old channel, there being so many of the old steersmen at the helm. But the inclinations of the King being so fixed upon the care of his people gives great encouragement that all will go well.

[ROBERT HARLEY] to SIR EDWARD HARLEY, at Westminster.

1688–9, March 5—"The people of Ludlow are industriously exasperated against Sir E. H[arley] as if he promoted the bill against theire Court. Daily accounts I receive of cabals and the threats of Papists" which shew that mischief is brewing. Many of the clergy say they will be hanged at their doors rather than read the prayers; but they will have wit in their anger. *Numbered* 15 *in red ink.*

SIR EDWARD HARLEY to ROBERT HARLEY.

[16]88[–9], March 9—There is discourse of raising more then twenty regiments for the reducing Ireland. Next week sits the Convention in Scotland; until then no certainty from thence. Some discontented persons, Sir J. Fenwick, Ogle, and others are gone northwards, but nothing appears.

[ROBERT HARLEY] to SIR EDWARD HARLEY, in King Street, Bloomsbury.

1688–9, March 11—Probably I might, with great expence have come in for Hereford, but it was not a place in which I could expect a continuing interest. "It may be humbly proposed to consideration when the bill of Election comes on, that none that sel any liqor &c. within forty days before or after the teste of the writ, shal during that time have votes. *Numbered* 17 *in red ink.*

[The SAME] to the SAME.

[16]88–9, March 12—It is no small refreshment to meet everywhere the prayers of the good for you and particularly when your servant was favoured to appear in the Proclamation. Very many mentioned it as a great refreshment to them to see one of your family. Many rumours are brought of the insolence of the Papists in their discourse. Though their strength is small their rage is great, and desperate men are not to be measured by rules of common prudence.

Some people at Ludlow have dressed up a quarrel between Lord Cherbury and yourself, and report it to have happened in the Parliament House. *Numbered* 18 *in red ink.*

Sir Edward Harley to Robert Harley.

[16]88[-9], March 12—Several commissions are sealed for the new regiments. Sir H. "Inglesby" has begun raising his men. It is said there are great disorders among the old army, and that the Coldstream regiment refuse to march. Many officers have laid down their commissions, and many soldiers their arms, in the Duke of Grafton's regiment.

Sir Edward Harley to the Lords Commissioners of the Great Seal.

[16]88[-9], March 15—Asking them to remember that he was for many years *custos rotulorum* of the county of Radnor, until Lord Jeffreys procured his being put out of all commissions.

[Robert Harley] to Sir Edward Harley.

1688-9, March 15—My letters have all been sent according to the numbers. I am troubled any of them are not received, but I now hear, not only the great apprehensions Ludlow is under because of their Council may be some cause, but also the packet is opened on the way, There is continually passing of disbanding soldiers towards the seaports, probably for Ireland, and it is thought they often rifle the posts. In all other things "so in this of H[igh] Sher[iff] I submit to your wisdom and conduct; but if it be resolved on I beg the direction of God and your counsel and instruction. I know myself very unfit for it in many respects as wel as inexperience. The many almes in that office reqiring a great deal of knowledge and caution to redress them."

—— to [Robert Harley.]

1688-9, March 16—Yesterday the House voted a supply to the King to make satisfaction to the Dutch for their charges in all respects in the late expedition of the King into England, 600,000*l.*

The memorial given in by the Dutch in all sorts of particulars amounting in sterling money unto 663,752*l.*, so the odd money is abated to us by our Dutch friends.

Both Houses being informed that the greatest part of Dunbarton's regiment being quartered at Ipswich were in mutiny and proclaimed King James and were marching with four pieces of cannon northward, thereupon the Houses addressed to the King to proclaim them and their adherents traitors, and to send force to reduce them. The King accordingly hath ordered a proclamation and sent his own regiment of dragoons seven hundred strong and also two regiments of horse, with orders if they reduce not to duty to fall upon them.

This day the widow of Fitz Harris at the Bar of the House of Commons owned a petition whereon she avers to evidence the horrible conspiracy to take away her husband's life because in the Oxford Parliament he would have discovered the wicked forgery of the pretended Protestant plot; this is ordered to be heard at the Bar of the House Friday next.

The King came to the House of Lords this day and there passed the Act for securing of dangerous persons, and also an Act for the reversing the attainder and judgment against the Lord Russell as being illegal, and the proceedings thereupon to be publicly cancelled at the next session in the Old Bailey.

The House of Commons ordered to be engrossed a bill for the taking away the oaths of allegiance and supremacy, and appointing the new oath of allegiance, and also for taking away the declaration in the acts of militia and corporations and uniformity.

The House hath also ordered a bill for restoring all corporations and charters in England and Wales and Berwick and the dominions thereunto belonging, and New England, and the Plantations.

The King in his speech when he passed the Acts this morning, recommended to the Houses to exclude Papists and to make provision that all Protestants might have free admittance to serve him.

The news from Ireland is in all respects very sad.

[Edward Harley] to Robert Harley.

[16]88[-9], March 19—Great distaste is taken at the King's last speech by the sons of the Church, who resolve to unite in her defence to keep off anything that may eclipse her dominion and grandeur. There is not yet any certain account of what is done in Scotland. The news of the day is that King James landed at Kingsale in Ireland with a considerable quantity of arms and ammunition. That kingdom is in a most deplorable condition. In all probability a famine must ensue next year.

[Robert Harley] to Sir Edward Harley.

1688–9, March 20. Stoke—The Papists are daily caballing, and though the clergy now begin to pray, they grumble much. Street has made a "covered sale" of his estate. Manington is making a purse of money, all to be gone to Ireland. If the parts of Wales and Cheshire be not better watched all the deserters will go thither.

[The Same] to the Same.

1688–9, March 22. S[toke]—I thought to have removed home to-day but the waters are so high there is no passing with a coach. "I find the Gazett confirmes the report mentioned in my last concerning your servant. He humbly refers himself to your wiser management," and if getting off be not more advisable "begs your prayer to act usefully in that station, and also your instructions concerning Deputy Sheriff and other officers. Selling the place is not only mean and leaves him to peel the country uncontroled, but also contrary to the words of the oth, which ought to be considered."

The discontented are very free in their discourse and propagating the same amongst others, and many artifices used. The malcontents of Leominster can be pleased with no health but King James.

[The Same] to the Same.

1689, March 25. St[oke]—We cannot yet leave this place being all surrounded with water.

A paper in the nature of a remonstrance is privately handed about Ludlow and elsewhere against the proceedings of King William and the Parliament.

[The Same] to the Same.

[16]89, March 26—This day we came safely home. I beg your directions concerning the Sheriff's office, who is proper for a deputy. "I wrot to B[rother] E[dward] that I may have leave to goe out of the Baylivewick, else dare scarce walk about the grounds—the dwelling being inclosed with other counties seems a good argument to desire it—but I foresee worse inconveniences." R. Cornwall is come down and talks very high "that the rebellious soldiers were increased and could not be beat but would fight to the last man, [and] that the Scots would bring in the late King."

Sir Edward Harley to Robert Harley.

1689, March 26—The year in new account began yesterday with a lunar eclipse and with an extraordinary debate in the House of Commons concerning the Coronation Oath.

E. Harley to his brother, Robert Harley.

[16]89, March 26—Toryism is now in the ascendant. All the old gang of Justices are put into the Commission, and indeed fill most places. You may guess at the whole design by the fact that yesterday the House being upon the Coronation Oath, a debate began whether the King should swear to maintain the Church of England established by law.

[Robert Harley] to Sir Edward Harley.

[16]89, March 29—The paper handed about here is much the same as the printed paper called *A remonstrance of all good Protestants against deposing King James II.* The "Dons" about Ludlow are in great heat. Some say they will die before they take the oaths to King William.

[The Same] to the Same.

[16]89, March 30—"As to your servant's being sheriff, not so easy now to go back. If any storme is expected in any respect, he desire not to draw out his neck, or if any redress can be by him made of the oppressions in that office. The office wil never be of less charge."

Sir Edward Harley to Robert Harley.

[16]89, March 30—Mr. J. Hampden and your father-in-law, and your uncle P. Foley, had discourse with Mr. Boscawen concerning the Parliament vacancy upon the death of Mr. Boscawen's brother, burgess for Tregony in Cornwall. Your cousin T. Foley of Stoke and yourself were proposed to succeed; at last they determined upon you, and then I was told it. Wednesday Mr. Hampden moved the House for the Speaker's warrant for a writ, which your father-in-law fetched that evening. Thursday the writ was sealed and delivered to him, so to me, and by your brother yesterday sent to Mr. Boscawen who promises to send the writ to his agent in the country to see it executed and returned and defrayed. I desire we may be thankful for this dispensation. Until

the issue of this be known it cannot be convenient to attempt anything concerning the Sheriff or the troop.

Your letter to Ned mentions your desire to see the coronation, which I approve, especially as the issue of your election will then be known, and your presence will be necessary for a determination in respect of the County office and other concerns. I hope you will have taken care to satisfy the funeral expenses of your dear mother.

Edward Harley to Robert Harley.

[16]89, April 1.—This day will be sent down a writ into Cornwall for electing a member. The person whose influence is like to influence the election has recommended "*your* nearest *frind*" which is likely to prove effectual. I hope if you hold the shrievalty that it may be without great charge. You must settle an undersheriff, which though you did not sell, yet I think it should be so construed that he bear part of the charge.

The Scots are resolved to make their bargain; it is said the greatest part of the convention there are resolved to free that nation from episcopal government. The Tories in Parliament are still rampant. It is said Mr. Finch will be made Attorney General and Pollexfen, Chief Justice.

[Robert Harley] to Sir Edward Harley.

[16]89, April 2—It has been a terribly stormy time. The church bell was blown down but not cracked. I shall wait your directions about the shrievalty.

[The Same] to the Same.

[16]89, April 5—As to the affair of Cornwall, I desire to wait on our gracious Father who doth all in the best time and way, and must own great obligations to the gentlemen's favour.

Sir Edward Harley to Robert Harley.

16[89], April 13—The solemnities of the Coronation passed very placidly. Yesterday the House of Commons addressed their Majesties with congratulation of their crowning. The reception was gracious. Everyone of the House kissed their Majesties hands.

Yesterday I received from Boscawen the indenture from the borough of Tregony in Cornwall, wherein you are returned burgess to serve in Parliament for that place, being unanimously chosen on April 6th. I pray God by the multitude of his tender mercies to enable you with every good and perfect gift, that you may with godly sincerity be faithful and serviceable in this great occasion. Acknowledge your obligations to Mr. Boscawen and your uncle Hampden.

The Same to the Same.

[16]89, April 16—Your presence is expected here with all speed and must not be delayed. The House of Commons voted this day to support the King in a war with France, when he pleases, with his allies, to declare it. This is a great vote.

[Robert Harley] to [Sir Edward Harley.]

[16]89, April 16.—I shall hasten up with all speed and hope to be in town Wednesday or Thursday of next week.

The gentlemen of the county having sent for me to meet them I think it best to go to-morrow to Hereford. I shall then perceive a little what their temper is.

The Same to the Same.

[16]89, April 18—At Hereford I found many possessed with a strong report that Mr. Paul Foley and Sir E. Harley had occasioned "the loss of the act for Wye" by being so narrow-spirited as not to lay down three pounds a piece. You easily guess what bow this arrow came from.

April 19—The Bishop of Hereford would not allow a sermon on Coronation day. "The Qakers are very nought, and stick not publicly to declare they are for K[ing] J[ames], and have constant instructions by letters."

Thomas Jones to Robert Harley, in Herefordshire.

1689, April 30. At the Pewter Platter, without Temple Bar—Offering to send him the news letters. His terms are, to send once a week for 2*l.*, twice a week for 3*l.* and thrice a week for 4*l.*; to be paid every year.

The King to Robert Harley, Sheriff of Herefordshire.

1689. May 13. Hampton Court—Permission to live out of the county during his shrievalty. *Signed. Royal Seal. Signed by the Earl of Shrewsbury.*

Bartholomew Fillingham and others to Robert Harley, Sheriff of Herefordshire.

1689, May 14. The Agent's Office, Saint Stephens Court, New Palace Yard, Westminster—Enclosing a Proclamation and Act of Parliament to be delivered to the Commissioners for Herefordshire. *Endorsed* Poll Act and Proclamation.

A. Pye to Abigail Harley, at Brampton.

1689, May 16—The condition of Ireland is very sad. A brief was last Sunday read for them; most people think we have been very slow in that affair; a little assistance had it been in time might have kept it from the misery it is now reduced to. It is generally laid to Lord Nottingham's door that he sent word to the Dutch by the 10th of this month would be time enough for their fleet to join ours. I am sorry to find so much discontent amongst all parties. I fear we are not worthy of the blessing we enjoy; but what do I with public affairs as if you had no friends here to give you an account what news is stirring.

I was to kiss the Queen's hand at Hampton Court; she is a lovely woman and very obliging, but I did not take notice "that she had a dressing and a coster hat." It is time for me to end this scribble which I have hastily run over.

JOHN HALL to ROBERT HARLEY.

1689, May 28. Pembroke College—Concerning the cost of printing the Bible in Welsh.

—— to ROBERT HARLEY, in London.

1689, June 5—Warning him against the machinations of the Papists and urging him to hasten from the Mount or otherwise he would find the people as mad for idolatry as the Jews were.

A. PYE to ABIGAIL HARLEY, at Brampton.

1689, June 14—"I believe the parliament men think the season pretty hot for sitting, though by their despatching 'tis no sign. The heats about Oates and Marquis Carmarthen have done no good. The taxes indeed fall heavy upon every body, but considering the slavery we are freed from, wonder people complain."

[EDWARD HARLEY] to SIR EDWARD HARLEY, at Westminster.

[16]89, July 12. Brampton—Most of the parsons in the country will take the oaths except Dorington and Buckley.

[ROBERT HARLEY] to SIR EDWARD HARLEY.

[16]89, July 20—I arrived here on Thursday. From Oxford I went to Cheltenham where two companies of Lord Roscommon's regiment were quartered. The Sessions at Hereford adjourned till Tuesday for taking the oaths. None at Oxford are expected to be likely to refuse the oaths.

H. BISHOP OF HEREFORD to ROBERT HARLEY.

[16]89, July 22. Croft Castle—Welcoming him back into the County. *Signed.*

[ROBERT HARLEY] to [SIR EDWARD HARLEY.]

[16]89, July 23—Last night Dr. Bayly came. He finds the little boy has a rupture. He has applied a plaster and will send a truss from Worcester.

We are persecuted with many persons since I came home, about the sheriffs livery and other things. I hear the Lord Chief Justice lodges at Ludlow tomorrow. I humbly beg your prayers that God will guide me so that "I may do nothing unbecoming our holy profession." I go tomorrow to Hereford; the coach I send before.

The LORDS OF THE TREASURY to ROBERT HARLEY, Sheriff of Herefordshire.

1689, July 26. Whitehall. Treasury Chambers—Directing him to send up the names of two gentlemen in each hundred in the County fit to be appointed Commissioners for levying the aid granted by Parliament to the King and Queen. *Three signatures.*

[Robert Harley] to [Sir Edward Harley.]

[16]89, July 27. Hereford—On Thursday the Lord Chief Justice came here, somewhat out of humour that day, but very well since. After dinner went to church where Mr. Lloyd preached a very good sermon for which Sir H. Crofts foreman of the Grand Jury returned him thanks in the name of all. The Judge's charge would have been high treason eighteen months ago. "The assertion was that King's are made by the people."

John Scudamore and Thomas Delahay to the Earl of Monmouth.

1689, July 30—Declaration that they had heard Sandys Lechmere say that he abhorred King William and Queen Mary and that he wished their destruction and that he might be so happy as to be instrumental thereto, and that he had made great preparations thereunto and did not doubt of perfect success in the same.

[Robert Harley] to Sir Edward Harley, at Westminster.

[16]89, July 30—Giving particulars of the Assizes.

[The Same] to the Same.

[16]89, August 1—Mr. Dorington and Buckly have taken the oaths. The Bishop at his visitation here told the clergy they had many enemies. They might take notice how their order was used in Scotland; therefore he exhorted them to take the oaths.

[Robert Harley] to the Lords [of the Treasury].

1689, August 8. Brampton—Sending up a list of names for Commissioners in accordance with their letter of the 26th July. *Draft.*

The Same to the Same.

1689, August 9—On Wednesday little Neddy was taken very ill, somewhat like convulsions. We suppose it proceeded from the uneasiness of a truss he had newly put on, which was too hard for so young a child.

Enclosed is the letter to the Lord of the Treasury, with two lists. Their directions to me are to return two or more active gentlemen for every hundred, with their places of abode. I suppose it is not meant to tie them up to their particular hundred, for in some places the commissioners must go into several hundreds.

Sir Edward Harley to Robert Harley, at Brampton.

[16]89, August 10—I am very glad Mr. Mathews's daughter has been with our little boy. Mr. Geldsthrop sends in a box camomile flower, lime tree flower, and black cherry water for the child, to be mixed or taken singly to remedy wind. I like not the girdle sent down by Mr. Geldsthrop.

SANDYS LECHMERE to SIR EDWARD HARLEY, in King Street, Bloomsbury.

1689, August 19. Stanhope near Hereford—Asking him to contradict the scandalous charges which had been brought against him by Mr. Pugh. *Seal of arms.*

[ROBERT HARLEY] to SIR EDWARD HARLEY.

1689, August 20—The Governor of Chester went through Wigmore on Monday. He says that Lord Roscommon's regiment refused to go on board, and that he drew the garrison down upon them and then they marched. The Irish, before our force landed, burned Carrickfergus and many other towns in their retreat.

[The SAME] to the SAME.

[16]89, August 23—Sir S. Morgan returned on Wednesday to Chester. He was very full of the great entertainment he gave Duke Schomberg. This day the chief constable has a warrant from Sir Herbert Croft and Colonel Gorges to search all Papists houses for horses and arms. "The little boy is most out of order in rainy weather." It is rumoured about Leominster the Parliament will be dissolved.

A. HARLEY to her father [SIR EDWARD HARLEY].

1689, September 7—"This day sennight the Duke of Gloucester was seized with convulsion fits, every day they expect his death, no one of the doctors think can live. I hear Sir John Guise has thrown up his commission, the occasion said to be upon a quarrel with the Lieutenant Colonel; that Sir John sent to the King to desire leave to give up his commission, who said, with all his heart. Sir John sent his thanks it being the first request that was ever granted him. There is great talk of a plot but I have seen nobody can give any good account of it, but this day my Lady Mary Fenwick and Lady Hanum were taken into custody and papers seized with them. I heard in the City yesterday there is a ship taken coming from Scanderoon by two French privateers; she was richly laden to the value of 90,000*l.*

The SAME to the SAME.

1689, September 14—I was at Mr. Baxter's Thursday. He presents his service to you and desires a copy of your catalogue of the ministers turned out for non-conformity. Oates was yesterday at Hampton Court; the King and Council ordered him 200*l.* in money to pay his debts, and 10*l.* a week maintenance. It is talked on again that the Queen Dowager will leave England. Dr. Winn is turned out from being under secretary to my Lord Shrewsbury. One put out of a place in Londonderry by Kirke the King has ordered to be put in again, upon Mr. Walker's character of him. All affirm part of the last plot was to seize or kill the King hunting. News here is that King James and Monsieur D'Avaux have left Ireland, that they were deserted by their army. Colonel Cannon is gone from Scotland.

BARTHOLOMEW FILLINGHAM and others to ROBERT HARLEY.

1689, September 14. Agents Office—Sending him forty three Acts of Parliament for a grant to their Majesties and a commission for putting the same into execution. *Signed.*

THOMAS LEE to SIR EDWARD HARLEY, at Brampton.

[16]89, September 21—Giving particulars of the campaign in Ireland and the movement of troops in Scotland. *Enclosed, The Bishop of Chichester's dying confession and recognition of the Church of England.*

THE LORDS OF THE COUNCIL to [ROBERT HARLEY,] Sheriff of Herefordshire.

1689, September 26 The Council Chamber at Whitehall—Directing him to notify to all the justices in his county that they were diligent to put in force the Acts of Parliament for disarming Papists and reported Papists and for seizing all the horses above the value of 5*l.*, and that the horses so seized were to be sent to the City of London, Bristol, Chester, or Carlisle. *Eight signatures.*

A PYE to her cousin [ABIGAIL] HARLEY, at Chavenage.

1689, October 29—I have not yet seen Sir Edward nor my cousin, their time is so taken up one knows not when to find them. I suppose they are to-day with their brother members at the great feast of my Lord Mayor's at Guildhall, which it is said will cost at least 4.000*l.* We are just come home from the show, where we have been sufficiently pelted with squibs, but indeed next to the coronation it is the finest sight I have seen. Wished for you, where you might plainly see the King and Queen in a most delicate coach, with many ladies, nobles, and all the new royal regiment of the city. The King is the most mended in his looks that ever I saw any person in four months time. In my last to my mother I writ knew not what to make of the new plot, now all is discovered. My Lord Griffin's cook ordered a pewterer to make great brandy bottles with false bottoms, wherein he pretended to put up "poynt" and forbidden g[oods for] Ireland, but the pewterer's wife suspecting, had them seized, and the letters are found to give the most exact account of all that has passed in the fleet, army, privy council, that it is thought many that sit at helm must be concerned Several are clapped up, Lord Salisbury impeached afresh and confined, as also Graham, Burton, and Jenner.

[EDWARD HARLEY] to SIR EDWARD HARLEY, in London.

[16]89, November 4—Upon Friday was the election of the Convocation men at Leominster. Johnson of Whitbourne was chosen without opposition, by command of the Bishop. The candidates were "Mr. Fothringel and Mr. Buckley of Ludlow." The latter was chosen, the whole body of the Cathedral men being for him. It is said he was recommended by the Bishop. We may as soon expect a reformation from a convention of infernal spirits as from any of these.

L. Braddo to [R] Harley.

1689, November 6—Last Saturday the Earl of Essex's chosen Committee was revived, and in some few days will, I hope, have a good issue in the House of Lords. I hear that the Earl of Essex has declared that what money I have had of him has been extorted from him. I should be glad to know the truth of this report.

[Edward Harley] to Sir Edward Harley.

1689, November 11—"I have met with a way to charge a gun, that carries the bullet with incredible force. With one of my pistols I shot throw the barn wall above eight score measured yards. With the bridle gun, above two hundred. It is thus. First put down the barrel a little gun powder; knock it that it may come to the touch hole. Take the ordinary charg of powder, then add white paper, well ground and pounded, to be a third part as much as the powder. Mix these well and charg with it. Instead of paper put down a piece of camphire as big as the bullet which must be beat close to the powder. It cannot be beat in to hard. Then charg with bullet wrapt in leather or parchment. A pistol thus charged gives a report like a musket, and without recoiling, if it be clean. I suppose an ordinary gun thus charged will shoot throw an half inch board four hundred yards."

[The Same] to [the Same.]

[16]89, November 14—There has arrived a letter for the High Sheriff from the Agent's Office which required the duplicates for the poll money to be sent in speedily to the Exchequer. I delivered it to my uncle who has directed the Undersheriff in it.

A. Pye to Abigail Harley, at Brampton.

1689, December 3—Lady Betty Paulet lately died, it was the flux at first, after turned to a fever. 'Tis said his Grace her father was so busied with state affairs that he said [he] could do her no good, but when she was dead went to see her, 'poor Betty,' says he, 'I had laid up 20,000*l.* for thee,' but in her life time could not see a penny to pay for her coronation clothes. Young Mr. Hampden is a great beau, dresses and powders, courts Lady Monmouth and a far greater. Lord Monmouth's passion increases for Lady Dorset. This is all I hear of tattle; for state affairs you want not better intelligence than I can give. *Signet.*

E. H[arley] to [Sir Edward Harley].

[16]89[–90[, January 14—"The noise of the taxes and the deadness of markets fills the country with complaints. Farmers in many places throw up their lands. Poverty and confusion, the just deserts of a prophane nation that has despised the Gospel, seem to make haste towards us." Saturday began a terrible tempest. The wind was so violent that the children could not stay in the nursery, though no harm is received here. "The Papists in this country talk openly of the return of their King and how little oposition he is like to meet with. The Welsh officers come from Ireland say they will not return if Duke Schomberg be continued general, "for that he favours nowe Presbyterians."

IRELAND.

[16]89-90, January 14—A list of the frontier quarters of the army in Ireland. Total number of men, 2,622.

E. H[ARLEY] to SIR EDWARD HARLEY, in London.

[16]89-90, January 27—Several meetings of Papists have been at Mr. Goodier's. Amongst them it is said were some Irish. In all places they openly own a confident expectation of their King's return in the spring.

[The SAME] to [the SAME.]

[16]89[-90], January 30—We hope by the next post to have news of the recovery of your health. I intend to be in London with all convenient speed. "Most of the servants going away in the spring, I suppose that will be the most proper time if you design any alteration in the family."

[ROBERT HARLEY] to SIR EDWARD HARLEY, at Paul Foley Esq., Stoke Court.

1689-90, February 15. Leominster—"Between eight and nine I came safe to Hampton, found him at home and very frank in his discourse, whereupon I guessed his father's success was not such as expected. The sum of al was, if I would give no disturbance at Lemster but leave Mr. Colt and Mr. Gorges to try it out, he would faithfully engage to stand by me next time." In this town Mr. Colt will carry it, but with difficulty. If I stand it will "be to the flinging him out; therefore I think to hasten and secure Radnor."

E. H[ARLEY] to [SIR EDWARD HARLEY].

[16]89[-90], February 15—I hope this will find you at your journey's end. The Earl of Kent and Lord Chandos have promised all their interest for you. Lord Bellamont goes down next week. He complains much of Mr. Foley for breach of promise. It is said the administration of the government during the King's absence is to be committed to the following: Marquis Carmarthen, the Earls of Nottingham, Shrewsbury, Devon, Dorset, and Pembroke, Mr. Wharton, Sir John Lowther, and Chief Justice Holt. The Exchange news says the French fleet are gone to Ireland.

The SAME to [the SAME].

[16]89-90, February 18—I have been this day with Lady Harley. The Tories intend to-morrow to try their strength in London against the old members. I hear the old Bristol members are like to be excluded. The Herefordshire Tories talk big. I should think if Mr. Coningsby stood for the county and George Colt came in for Leominster it might accommodate all disputes. I am told by one that belongs to Mr. Boscawen that the elections are likely to be mended there. If my brother have any certainty in Cornwall it would be better to bring in a good man at first at Radnor, than that he should be returned in two places.

THOMAS VAUGHAN to ROBERT HARLEY.

[16]89[-90], Feburary 20. Knighton—I find it is Sir R. Gwynne's request and also Mr. Williams of Cabalva that there may be an amicable meeting to agree upon the persons to serve in the next parliament. *Signet.*

ROBERT PRICE to ROBERT HARLEY, at Brampton.

1689[-90], February 20—As for the burgesship of New Radnor, the contest being between you and my cousin Williams, I cannot fairly appear on either side. If my indifference may be of use to you, of that you may be secure by my absence and silence.

T[HOMAS] FOLEY to SIR EDWARD HARLEY, at Brampton.

[16]89[-90], February 22. Worcester—Giving election news. *Signet.*

E. H[ARLEY] to SIR EDWARD HARLEY.

[16]89-90, February 22—It is a great mercy the country is no more influenced by the malicious reports which the enemies of religion and common liberty everywhere spread. "I hear a list of the Commonwealth's men, as they call Whigs now, is printed. Your and my brother's names is in it. The election for the city is not yet over, it is much feared that the four old members will loose it. The parsons bestow more pains for votes" than they ever did. Upon canonical obedience they are forbidden to appear for the Lord Commissioner Maynard. The elections that are over have generally "mended." If my brother stands fair to be chosen in Cornwall I suppose it will be best the Radnor election deferred.

The SAME to [the SAME].

[16]89[-90], February 25—It is a great mercy your election is likely to be without much charge and trouble. The clergy everywhere exert their utmost rigour especially against Sir John Maynard and Colonel Mildmay. The poll for the City is shut up to-night.

A. PYE to ABIGAIL HARLEY, at Brampton.

1689[-90], February 25—Are the elections over with you? People talk of nothing else, the City poll is not yet ended, unless it be to-night. I am sorry to see so great a violence of spirit as is in both parties, which shall get uppermost. I hope whichever is predominant, they will mind the public good and not fall to private pique and quarrels.

Several marriages are passed others talked of, as that the widow Trevor and Mr. Cutts is concluded, but he is to go into Ireland and she doth not care to marry him till he comes back, and he would gladly be sure first. Mrs. Cotton hath again stole a husband, and must expect to be as much slighted by all his relations as she was before by the Cottons. The Duke of Beaufort and Duchess are greatly vexed. They were in treaty for him with the Lord Weymouth's daughter. He and my Lord of Essex have the name for the lewdest young men of the town.

T. FOLEY to his cousin, ROBERT HARLEY.

1689[-90], February 26. Hereford—Concerning the election at Weobly, for which place on the advice of his father [Paul Foley] he intended to stand if Mr. Price, one of the candidates, could be prevailed upon to retire. His father did not wish him otherwise to contest the seat because as it was his first public act he ought not to adventure upon an uncertainty. *Signet.*

H. Fortescue to Robert Harley, in Cornhill, London.

[16]89[-90], February 27. Penwarne—I find the town [Tregoney] very unsteady. Mr. Boscawen and I have done what we can for you, but they say they will have no stranger for their burgess, which has forced Mr. Boscawen to declare for Serjeant Tremaine, so that I find you will fail of a burgesship there.

Thomas Foley to Sir Edward Harley.

1689[-90], March 1. Stoke Court—My father yesterday heard that at Harold's Inn there had been a meeting of many freeholders, and it was there passed not to choose any one who was for making Wye navigable. Mr. Gwyllim of Langston is said to have been very forward therein; if so, it must have been by positive command from the Earl of Kent.

Edward Harley to Sir Edward Harley, at Brampton.

[16]89[-90], March 4—The election for London is not yet declared. Dr. "Hescot," Dr. Tenison, and others of the clergy, have openly declared from their pulpits for Sir Walter Clarges and Sir W. Pulteney. I hear Mr. Boscawen is vigorously opposed by the Bishop of Exeter. The fleet with the Queen of Spain is not yet gone. The election for Middlesex begins on Friday. All the clergy are for the "Jurymen."

Robert Milward to Robert Harley.

1688[-90], March 5. Kingston—I enclose a note of names of the burgesses. They desire you to show yourself among them before Saturday. *List enclosed containing fifty-five names of inhabitants who pay to church and poor; five of them being females.*

Edward Harley to Sir Edward Harley, at Hereford.

[16]89-90, March 11—I am sorry my name was used at Leominster, though I suppose it is something else that puts them upon venting their malice against you. It seems very ominous that the clergy have in a manner excommunicated from their Church the greatest part of the unspotted gentry of the nation. The B. of L. went down yesterday as commander-in-chief against Colonel Mildmay. Not above four persons voted for Sir John Maynard. A person came to him as he was going into Court and told him he was a rogue and deserved to be hanged for murdering the Earl of Strafford. It is said the Dauphiness is dead. The fleet with the Queen of Spain is not yet gone. Some think the French are out to meet them.

W. Probert to Robert Harley, at Brampton.

1689[-90], March 12. Llandewy—On election business. *Signet.*

Robert Price to Robert Harley, at New Radnor.

1689[-90], March 16, Foxley—Concerning the electors of New Radnor and the rights of the "out boroughs" to give their voices.

[Edward Harley] to [Sir Edward Harley.]

[16]89[-90], March 18—I have received my brother's account of the Herefordshire election. Many of your friends express great concern for the loss of you and my brother. It may be there is no more reason to be troubled at you not coming into this Parliament than there was for you being left out of the Court.

It is said that a plot is discovered in which many noblemen and others are concerned for bringing in King James.

J. D. Colt to Robert Harley, at Brampton.

[16]89[-90], March 22—I am most extremely surprised to hear of the treachery of our gentry against your father. I hear how basely my Lord Scudamore deserted. Undoubtedly it was a design laid all along, though I hear it is pretended that it was done because the Recorder was set up at Leominster. I think little will come of this Parliament, it seems so divided at present with Tories, Whigs, Court Whigs, and Tory Whigs, which are the names at present given us. We are now swearing, and nothing will be done till Monday. The King is hale, well and merry, and seems fully resolved for Ireland. Coningsby told me yesterday he did not fear you. He would poll at any time for Leominster. *Signet.*

E. H[arley] to Sir Edward Harley.

1690, April 3—Yesterday the House resolved to raise a million on the revenue. The other 200,000*l.* is to be raised by a poll bill. It is said this has much disturbed the King and Court. They expected to have no more than half the 1,200,000*l.* charged upon the revenue. The House of Lords sate very late to-day in the debate upon the bill for recognising the King and the last Parliament. The Bishop of London and most of his brethren opposed and so did "the two Horses." The French are certainly landed in Ireland. The prospect of affairs and the continued abhorrence of religion is very sad.

——— to ———

1690, April 4. Dublin—Concerning the musters for the army in Ireland and the mal-administration which had taken place there. *Copy.*

T. Foley to his "brother," Sir Edward Harley.

1890, April 5. London—I have spoken to Sir Rowland Gwynne, who desired that my son Harley should be in [parliament], but he thought Major Wildman would be of more use in the House, which made him oppose your son. If the Major was returned for where he first stood he was willing your son should be for Radnor.

Sir Thomas Clarges and that side are like to carry all before them. We had a trial of skill yesterday.

Philip Foley to Robert Harley, at Brampton.

1690, April 5. London—Concerning his intended petition to be returned as member for Stafford.

E. H[arley] to Sir Edward Harley.

1690, April 10—It is evident every day more and more where the Court intends to centre. A rescue cannot be expected from this Parliament except some particular reason require. It is thought the deferring of your coming up till the King goes, might not be amiss.

There are reports of great losses at sea by tempests and privateers.

Philip Foley to Robert Harley.

1690, April 15. London—Advising him not to petition, but to stand for Radnor if there should be a new election there.

E. H[arley] to [Sir Edward Harley].

1690, April 26—The King's going to Ireland is now questioned. Some think the visible growth of King James's party prevents it. It is confidently said that the Earl of Nottingham declines to continue in his place, the King being now declared a King *de jure*.

Sir Cloudesley Shovel bravely fell upon the French ships in the right of King James and he has re-taken a Scotch man-of-war taken last summer. It is said the Scotch are very unanimous. Mr. Wharton proposed a bill for abjuring King James, which passed smoothly till to-day, when it was rejected by the majority of fourteen. Sir John Lowther and Sir H. Goodrich, though at first for it, yet to-day opposed it. The argument used by Sir Thomas Clarges was that the providence of God ought not to be limited.

Mr. Howard, Lord Stafford's son, is taken at Canterbury with several blank commissions and other papers, being lately come from Ireland. French interest grows so fast that it is now publicly owned. The management of public affairs is very surprising. Some say the King was not for the abjuring bill. His going to Ireland is pressed for by the Tories.

A. Pye to Abigail Harley, at Brampton.

1690, April 29—Lady Kilmorey this week marries Lord Huntington. None can tell the advantage she propounds. Honour she hath already. His estate is settled on his children, his good humour and qualifications must be the thing. Mr. Cutts is sure of the widow Trevor, but she will not have him till he returns out of Ireland. This last week the Lady Reeves married one Mr. Vincent of Surrey; she was vastly rich, her maiden name Aunsloe. Public news I will not pretend to while cousin Edward is in town that knows all that passes. The day for the King's going is not yet set, they say he will want more money first, I think land will bear no more. *Signet.*

C. Blackmore to Robert Harley.

1690, May 9. Worcester—It is, I believe, more of a trouble to your friends than to yourself or Sir Edward that you are at Brampton, and not at Westminster. I hear from Essex that Mr. Oldfield is prosecuted for preaching in that county because he was not sworn in that county. Also one Mr. Rogers, a Nonconformist, is prosecuted by the minister at Chelmsford for baptising a child in a private house.

"Poor Captain Birch came down this week in the Bridgnorth coach and met with some blades at Stoaken Church who eased him of his luggage. But he drawing and resolving to fight—as he told me—till all six came about him and took away his sword. They gave him his watch again because he was so valorous and one of his eleven guineas to bear his charges to Worcester, and told him 'at Worcester we know Captain Birch may have credit for money.' Sir I have herewith —according to Mr. Seward's desirement—sent for Madam Harley the crampstone."

—— to Abigail Harley.

1690, June 21, London—Since His Majesty's safe landing at Carrickfergus and immediately passing to Belfast he has signified to the Queen that all things there are in good order and finds the air of that country very agreeable to him. It is advertised from Ireland that King James's army consist of three bodies each of 15,000, designed to be advantageously posted for securing their quarters. Some report the French counsel a dilatory defence, but King James and the Irish and British with him would press for a battle. There is come out a French treatise which proposes as the only remedy for peace [in] Christendom that the present French king be deposed and the Dauphin his son to take the throne, because the faith of the father having been so often violated cannot be trusted. The French General Cattinat offered the Vaudois fair and great promises if they would leave their natural sovereign the Duke of Savoy, but they rejected him and are received under the protection of the Duke who almost miraculously is induced to declare war against France and to join with the confederates. Sir William Hussy, designed Ambassador for Turkey but not to go before Michaelmas, is now ordered immediately to go for Vienna in order—as is supposed—to make peace between the Emperor and the Turk, which is said to be much desired by all sorts of persons in Turkey. Crone, condemned as a traitor, was reprieved yesterday till Wednesday next. Wednesday last being the Fast was found upon St. Dunstan's Church in Fleet Street the following words, "This day is to be acted a comedy called *The praying hypocrites*, thrice acted since 1648 by the command of the King and Queen." Thus impudent is Tory wickedness. Thursday Mr. Robinson having been heard by his counsel before the Lord Mayor and Aldermen, was sworn Chamberlain of London. Yesterday and this day Mr. Ferguston's counsel moved the King's Bench for his discharge insisting specially upon the invalidity of the warrant, but the King's Counsel not being ready to argue it, is put off till another day. Yesterday according to Her Majesty's order the Royal City regiment made their address to the Queen and were graciously received. And the Tories call them the Inniskilling regiment, it is hoped they will be found such.

John Hampden to the Princess Sophia.

1690, June 22. London—Assuring her of his ardent support in regard to the succession to the throne of England, and begging her not to consider the cause as lost. *French. Copy.*

New Radnor.

1690, July 8—Appointment by the Mayor and Corporation of Robert Harley to be a common burgess of the borough and liberties of New Radnor. *Signet.*

A. Pye to Abigail Harley, at Brampton.

[1690], July 12—The good news from Ireland is somewhat allayed for fear of the French's landing. Lord Torrington hath curses enough. The Tower is a good safeguard for him from the mob. They say we shall have a great army here with the militia soon in a readiness to draw down to the frontiers.

[Sir Edward Harley] to Abigail Harley, at Brampton.

[16]90, July 14—Yesterday your brother Harley waited on the Earl of Macclesfield, who with the Earl of Pembroke, Sir Robert Howard, Sir Henry Goodrich, and Sir Thomas Lee, are sent to the fleet to examine the disorders. Tell your sister there is no likelihood of any danger, the French fleet being far off upon the western coast. It is said Killigrew with the Straits fleet is come safe to Plymouth, that King James has slipped away, and the Irish lay down their arms; but if there be not care in cleansing the fleet from all sorts of vermin, this whole kingdom will be in the fleet that is in prison round about, and all trade must fail. It is supposed the King will come speedily for England, and the endeavour is for the Parliament not only to meet but sit this July 28. The Bath agrees well with [ ] Foley, and next week is talked of to make up our marriage with Mr. Winnington. *Signet.*

E[lizabeth] H[arley] to her father[-in-law], Sir Edward Harley, in London.

[16]90, July 24. Brampton—My humble thanks for the ointment for my poor little boy. Yesterday Mr. Wildish made him an issue in his arm. He thought it would be very troublesome to the child to have it in his neck. Uncle Harley was so kind as to be by when it was done. We all think it well made. He has very sad fits of coughing and is very black in the face and is almost strangled. Last night those that watched with him thought that he had sixteen strangling fits. I hope God will be gracious to us and spare him.

Endorsed: "This letter from my dear daughter Harley was written a fewe dayes before the death of her sweet child and second son, Robert Harley."

The Earl of Macclesfield to Robert Harley, at Hereford.

[1690], September 7. Ludlow Castle—I have received your letter with the probability of the King's landing at Bristol. If you had any certain account of the taking of Limerick I should give more credit to it. I think it is for the interest of us all that we meet the King at his landing, but how to adjust that upon such short warning I know not less your business at the assizes will permit your attendance.

A. Pye to her cousin, Abigail Harley, at Brampton.

1690, September 10. Chavenage—The King lay Sunday night at Badminton. He came without warning, or very little, to the Duke's, dined there the next day. The country people crowded greatly after him. My brother says he looks better than ever. *Signet.*

E. L——— to Robert Harley, at Brampton.

1690, September 20. Dublin—Giving an account of the ruined condition of the country, and relating the progress of the campaign.

J. Boscawen to Robert Harley.

[16]90, September 27—I am glad your county is so firm to the Government when others deviate.

The King declared yesterday his intention was the fast should be observed while the war continued in Ireland. The London and adjacent ministers neglected it the last day without any order from his Majesty upon pretence that it was "outed" by the thanksgiving. I should be very willing to serve you in anything, particularly in presenting your petition, but the elections of Truro and Tregony being both controverted it will not be prudent for me to make enemies, and I therefore hope you will direct the same to another friend.

R[obert] H[arley] to Sir Edward Harley, at Brampton.

[16]90, October 25. King Street—I arrived here safely in the afternoon. None at Worcester could furnish me with a coach to bring up my witnesses, nor at Moreton. I have therefore hired Mr. Moore's coach from Oxford, which will be at the *Talbot* on Tuesday to come away Wednesday; he has six able horses. I desire somebody may go with the witnesses to Worcester to settle them as to their coming up. If I thought any of the witnesses would scruple to come I would serve them with an order.

The *Breda*, one of the best sailing fourth rates, with three hundred men was blown up in the Bay of Cork. She had above forty of King James's officers on board, to be brought to England.

The Same to the Same.

[16]90, October 28—Concerning the hearing of his election petition.

The Same to the Same.

1690, October 30—Sir R. G[wynne] did not attempt yesterday at the Committee to postpone the New Radnor cause. The petitioner has reason to be very sensible of and thankful for God's goodness hitherto. The interest still increases.

The Same to the Same.

1690, November 1—Brother Edward came safe this evening and all the witnesses. There is only Rye cause to be heard before Radnor, which is appointed for Monday, so I hope Radnor will come on on Friday.

The Same to [the Same].

[16]90, November 4. King Street—The report is Sir R. G[wynne] is sick at Enfield lodge and that they will move for a longer time. God will direct for the best, and his poor creature only begs his heart may be kept upright and sincere. This day leave is given to bring in a bill to make Wye navigable.

The witnesses continue in good health and hearty. Constant attendance on the house and following my affair straitens my time.

J. Hampden to [Sir Edward Harley].

1690, November. Faringdon—"I am glad to see you are cured of your fit of the gout. I am sorry temperate men should be troubled with that distemper. If I might have my will I would have it confined to those of our heathen Protestants who spend their time at Lockett's or Mrs. Southcot's. I hope my good niece, your daughter, has by this time recovered her health. I look upon her as a blessing to your family, and believe you are of the same mind. The paper you sent me is just like some of the ancient Councils, where things were debated much in the same manner. The inspirations they pretended to did not keep them from differing in opinion; and though some spake good sense, as some do in your paper, yet others spake as impertinently as those who were for the Hereford address. You say you do not understand the present scheme. I don't know who does, and that which is most melancholy and discouraging is that there seems to be no scheme at all. The only maxime that I see followed is this. Secure the Church, no Bishop, no King. Who would have thought so unhallowed a mother as a republic could have produced children that are such heros for episcopacy and the divine prerogatives of Monarchs or that my Lord Portland should become a bulwark of Monarchy, and protector and eldest son of the Church of England. You judge well that addresses will not build ships nor docks. I am afraid likewise that lawn-sleeves will not raise money nor win hearts." All my country is very poor "and some complain much for want of an act to oblige people to wear wool, which is the more strange because it is in our power to make such an act when we will." I am sorry to be out of town at this time for fear that my nephew Harley's petition should come on. "For my part I am glad to be out of the House and out of the State and most of all to be out of the Court, where nothing pleases me but one person, for whose merits and virtue I know you have the same consideration that I have."

E. H[arley] to [Sir Edward Harley].

[16]90, November 8—The goodness of God in his disposal of my brother's election at the Committee deserves our most grateful acknowledgment. Everything was carried beyond expectation without the least slur on any of the witnesses. Whatever was offered on the other side turned to their prejudice or was the occasion of laughter. They insisted that several of my brother's votes were not legal and that Paine's Castle, Presteign, and Norton, had right to elect. It was resolved by the Committee that the five boroughs, exclusive of Paine's Castle, Presteign, and Norton, have only right to elect a burgess for Radnor, and that Mr. Harley was duly elected. To both the questions there were not above three noes. Many persons of quality who seldom attend committees, appeared at this with great respect and kindness. The Comptroller, Lord Cornbury, Lord Brandon, Lord William Paulett, Sir Thomas Lee, Solicitor-General, Mr. Russell of the Admiralty, the Earl of Radnor, and Lord Chandos were there, though it was a most tempestuous night.

[Robert Harley] to Sir Edward Harley.

1690, November 8. King Street—A similar account of the proceedings before the Committee relative to the New Radnor election.

[The Same] to the Same.

[16]90, November 11. King Street—This day I was promised New Radnor should be reported, but only [Droit]wich, Colchester, and Buckingham were, so there remain Rye and New Radnor, and also St. Michael in Cornwall.

It is much doubted whether the Venetians will be able to hold the Morea which they have conquered. It is reported the French have given orders to the Dauphin to burn Cologne and Coblentz.

On the Lord's Day the Earl of Rochester carried the sword before his Majesty to chapel.

The Same to the Same.

1690, November 13—This day the return for New Radnor was amended and I took the oaths. Last night Lord Godolphin was made First Commissioner of the Treasury. No one displaced, only Sir J. Lowther is Second Commissioner now. The talk is that the Earl of Marlborough will be Master of the Ordnance and a Duke.

[Edward Harley] to [Sir Edward Harley.]

[16]90, November 15—It is greatly feared that the Confederacy is in so languishing a condition that nothing can keep it alive but English money. It is generally believed the Swede is embarking in the French interest. The French King is making vast naval preparations, he has hired all the seamen that can be got in the known world.

The loss of trade, want of money, and great taxes, fill persons of all sides with great dissatisfaction, but the apparent decay of religion and virtue is like to be of far more dismal consequence.

Robert Harley to Sir Edward Harley.

1690, November 18—Mrs. Wharton is found again, but Campbell that stole her is not. It is reported that the Lord Mayor has had a letter from the late King James, which he sent to the Secretary.

The Same to the Same.

1690, November 22—There has been a great discovery made at Bristol of the defrauding the King in his customs. Mr. J. D[utton] C[olt] is gone down and has by warrant secured many offenders. There is also a report that three clergymen there have absconded, being suspected of sodomy.

There has been great expectation that a general excise would be pushed for in the House. It was attempted faintly this day. The Earl of Kent after his offer to take 3,000*l.*, now says he will obstruct the bill of Wye.

[Edward Harley] to Sir Edward Harley.

[16]90, November 22—I am offered a very good chamber in Lincoln's Inn over that which was Lord Hale's. It may be bought for 140*l.*

It is said privately that Lord Godolphin comes in by Mrs. Villiers's interest. A letter was sent to the Lord Mayor without a name to it, from the French Court, telling him of the vast preparations which the French were making and how improbable it was for the English to resist it.

W. Probert to Robert Harley, in London.

1690, November 29. Llandewy—Congratulating him on the success of his petition.

Robert Harley to Sir Edward Harley.

1690, November 29—The news of the Turks' retreat from before Isack is confirmed and that the Imperialists are fortifying that place. The Earl of Torrington will be tried on Tuesday week at Sheerness. The House of Commons on Thursday last put off the consideration of the civil list and the King's speech till Thursday next, in the meantime intending the raising of the four millions. The King was a little displeased the motion of supply for the civil list was so far opposed. Mr. Sacheverell has not been in town all the Session. The bill for clandestine marriages is very perplexed and will hardly pass.

The Same to the Same.

1690, December 2—When I consider how the Lord was pleased to lay his hand on our poor family this time two years, and at the same time to call by his providence to a most public appearance " and that, to say as more, very expensive, when the tears of the greatest privat loss were accompanied with those agonies for the public, and when you, Sir, who had drunk so deep of a former cup, readily embraced again what your religion and the safety of your country called you to, I mean to carry your life in your hand, and not think it too deer to be hazarded in the defence either of the truth, faith, or ancient liberties of your country, and if you will please to give me leave, I desire with great thanks to God and al humility to add that I have lived to see you respected by your country with greater honor and testimony to your integrity then any have been chosen, and further the same persons not only to be ashamed they refused you, but to wish it had been otherwise. These are beautiful providences."

The general discourse as to the public is suitable to the short-sighted world, full of despondency, and so it is as to any external support. Some say the King's journey is deferred till January and that he has agreed to be received as Stadtholder. A new creation will follow of the Duke of Brandenburgh. The King of Sweden leaves the Confederacy, and some think treats a match for his daughter with the Prince of Wales. Tyrconnell has the Duke of Grafton's blue garter and a great pension in France.

[Edward Harley] to [Sir Edward Harley.]

[16]90, December 3—The state of public affairs presents a very sad prospect. The French preparations both by sea and land are immense. The Duke of Luxemburg is gone to Flanders, and St. Ruth the great persecutor of the Huguenots is sent to Ireland. Our Court and Parliament seem very unconcerned. Great treachery, no trade, and less virtue are the occasion of a general complaint. The French Protestants are very poor and meet with very slender supplies. I have distributed most of the money you ordered for them. Several Conformist Ministers have lately renounced their conformity and quitted their livings.

ROBERT HARLEY] to [SIR EDWARD HARLEY.

1690, December 6—Yesterday it pleased the Lord to complete another year to his poor creature. Yesterday began a long debate about the bill for forfeiting the rebels estates in England or Ireland. It is not relishing. Too many are in hopes of grants out of it. I therefore strove for a vote that would have rendered the bill useless, namely, that it could not be a fund of credit. Just as the question was ready to be put, the comptroller very discreetly made a motion and laid by the question. This morning arose a great debate about a bill which came down from the Lords to indemnify all persons for all things done this summer, namely, imprisoning men, &c. It had a smart debate. At last ordered a second reading. A friend of yours spoke against it and was fallen upon again by the Chancellor of the Exchequer with great earnestness.

A. PYE to her cousin, ABIGAIL HARLEY, at Brampton.

1690, December 9—I hear your brothers are both in town, but I have not been so happy as to see them, and do not expect cousin Robert so long as the parliament sits. On Saturday Mr. Pye went in the yacht with Lord Torrington to hear him tried, which he thought would have been on Monday; but it is put off till to-morrow and many question then.

R. [HARLEY] to [SIR EDWARD HARLEY].

1690, December 9—This day as well as yesterday is like to be wholly spent in hearing the petition of the "Rapareers of London" against the Lord Mayor. Yesterday was spent in hearing the petitioner's witnesses, who could not fix anything on the Lord Mayor. To-day the Lord Mayor is to be heard. We ate nothing yesterday till nine at night. The talk here is the Spaniards will deliver to the English as cautionary towns, Ostend, Nieuport, and Gravelines.

The SAME to the SAME.

1690, December 11—This is the fourth day the City cause has been in hearing. About three o'clock the Council withdrew; immediately a motion was made to adjourn the debate, but a question for candles coming between, the debate for the adjournment was renewed and after two hours carried, so the debate is adjourned for a week. Yesterday Earl Torrington's trial was cleared *nemine contradicente*. As soon as it was over he hoisted up his vice-admiral's flag.

JOHN WALSHAM to ROBERT HARLEY.

[16]90, December 12. Knill—Concerning one Woolaston who had preached a seditious sermon at Radnor, and also concerning the appointment of more Justices of the Peace for Radnorshire. *Signet.*

ROBERT HARLEY to SIR EDWARD HARLEY.

1690, December 13—On Thursday I gave you an account of God's great goodness in the affair of the City. Some take notice it happened upon December 11th, the day King James abdicated. Mr. Shepherd's jest is "that this was but a cause before a committee of elections upon the petition of King James and against King William, the sitting member." The acquittal of Earl Torrington was highly resented by the King who declared in Council that if the law allowed it he should be tried again, and ordered his commission to be superseded.

Several persons are to be tried for stealing Mrs. Wharton. Sir J. Johnson it is thought will be found guilty.

E[DWARD] H[ARLEY] to [SIR EDWARD HARLEY].

[16]90, December 13—On Thursday, Nethway the Herefordshire Golden Farmer was tried for two murders and six robberies to the value of 5,000*l*

Cousin Pye went to the trial of Lord Torrington. Not one man out of his own ship was produced against him, so that all that was alleged by Captain Dorset and other seamen who were in the fight at a distance from the Admiral, was looked upon as no evidence, there being no oath to any particular fact. The same objection was made to the evidence of Admiral Skeys and two other Dutch captains who appeared against him with great violence, and told the commissioners that had the English fought they had beaten the French. Lord Torrington appealed to his judges for the prudence of his conduct, magnified the French fleet, and exclaimed against the Dutch, saying that with all their pretence of fighting they had damaged only one French ship; all which his judges assented to and acquitted him *unâ voce*.

[EDWARD HARLEY] to ABIGAIL HARLEY, at Brampton.

[16]90, December 16—A barbarous attempt was made upon a gentleman of this House in the night: his man attempted to cut his throat while he was asleep. The gentleman was too strong and so saved himself. Lord Carbery has delivered up his commission of the Admiralty. The Earl of Monmouth and Sir John Lowther are turned out of the Cabinet or Council of Nine. They are succeeded by the Prince of Denmark and Lord Godolphin. I knew not of sending "cokolat" till it was too late.

ROBERT HARLEY to SIR EDWARD HARLEY.

1690, December 16—I thank you for the care you have taken to send beef and corn to the poor of Radnor. I think the other four boroughs should have some also. Yesterday Lord Carbery laid down his place at the Admiralty. Sir J. L[owther] of the North is not like to be one of the nine this time. The High party is much broken and discontented about this business of the City.

[EDWARD HARLEY] to SIR EDWARD HARLEY.

[16]90, December 20—I bless God I have been this day instrumental to prevent a public Christmas keeping and revels in this house. The money ordered for the French Protestants is disposed of and so are some of the clothes, which are very acceptable to many that want them. There is this day sent by the carrier a pound of chocolate.

ROBERT HARLEY to SIR EDWARD HARLEY.

[16]90, December 23—Mr. Bussell is declared Admiral of the Red, Killigrew of the Blue. Lord Sidney arrived on Sunday. He will be Secretary.

Several letters have been taken with one Philpot, made up in a staff, going for France. The Golden Farmer was hanged yesterday in Fleet Street near Salisbury Court. Neville Paine by order hence is tortured in Scotland, as they say, contrary to the instrument of Government that abolishes all torments. He confesses nothing, and their proof is full against him. Sir John Johnson, one concerned in the rape upon Mrs. Wharton, was executed.

The Same to the Same.

1690, December 27—There have been some suspicions of trumping up a plot. Another project is to divide and break by bringing in a bill for dispensing with the Sacrament Test. That affair is properer of discourse. I hope to begin my journey down the day after the recess.

The Same to the Same.

1690, December 30—This day was a great debate whether to give the additional excise for four or five years. The Committee carried it three to one for five years, and it looked very remarkable five years shall be demanded now, when they demanded at first not above four and would have been contented with three. This day the Lords have added as Commissioners Lord Cornwallis, and the Earls of Bridgewater, Stamford, and Rochester. This will cause a debate in the House to-morrow. I cannot guess which way it will go. The wording of the act has given the Lords an advantage. "To-morrow or this week great expectations of hunting the white elephant, but my little experience shews me when these things vent in noise, little is the execution, and the King talks of going on Fryday, but it is scarce practicable."

The Same to the Same.

1690–1, Jannary 1—The Lords after all their great talk of adding Commissioners, having chosen them by ballot in Committee, the Commons ordered the money bill to lie upon the table. The Lords immediately sent down a message they had passed the bill of accounts without amendment. "To-morrow is appointed a great day concerning the white elephant. I pray God direct in it. It is a very weighty affair and set on foot by men of trick."

The Same to the Same.

1690–1, January 3—Yesterday being the day appointed to attack the great man, no motion was made towards it. The general discourse is that several persons engaged in it were closetted the night before, particularly H———, Sir R. H———, and others. Yesterday Lord Preston and others were taken in Long Reach going for France. Several letters of correspondence and an association is pretended to be discovered. Earl Clarendon is this morning taken into custody. What this will grow to is not known. Some fear, others hope, it is a true plot; then think themselves safe.

The Same to the Same.

[16]90–1, January 6—I hear brother Nat is very well, from Mr. Trevor newly arrived, most part by land, from Aleppo. Earl Clarendon is gone to the Tower as well as Preston. A warrant is out to search after the non-swearing Bishop of Ely. A letter is taken written in his own hand, which the Queen knew and compared with one she had by her. It is full of advice to the late King, extolling the numerousness of their party, desiring his assistance on terms there proposed, gives advice, and adds, "our elder brother and rest of our brethren concur herein." The talk is that Ashton will be tried next week. There was a scheme laid down for seizing Portsmouth.

The Same to the Same.

[16]90–1, January 10—I hear not of any more apprehended, though more warrants are out. The King returned yesterday to Kensington, the wind being against him.

The Same to the Same.

1690–1, January 13—Friday is appointed for the trial of Preston, Ashton, and Elliot. It is thought it will be a matter of great consequence to the Government, if they escape, which some are too ready to hope or fear.

——— to Robert Harley, at Brampton.

1690–1, January 20. London—"The two following letters were found among my Lord Preston's papers taken on shipp board with him. The first supposed to bee writt by the B[ishop] of E[ly] and the other by some other B[ishop] and were read in Court at the tryalls of Lord Preston and Mr. Ashton.

New Years Eve.

Sir. Tho the bearer of this will doe me the justice to assure you wee are as full of duty, as unfeignedly and concernedly yours as your selfe could wish, yet this gentleman has undertaken you will forgive the presumption if I doe myself the honour to give you this fresh assurance in a few words, which wee doe by our actions. I shall omit noe occasions, not neglecting the least, and making zealous wishes for the greatest, to shew ourselves such as wee ought to bee. Sir, I speak in the plurall, because I write my elder brother's sentiments as well as my own, and the rest of the family. Tho' lessened in number, yet if wee are not mightily out in our accounts, wee are growing in our interests, that is in yours. He that delivers this will, I hope, intirely to your satisfaction represent us and mee in particular as with all the devotion imaginable, and unchangeable affection, Yours. God grant the happiest New Year.

Superscribed for Mr. Redding.

As it is impossible for mee to express that extraordinary great satisfaction it gave mee this time twelve moneth when I had the honour to receive that mark of your favour and goodness under your own hand, soe I have lived in some paine for an opportunity to write you my humble acknowledgments and truest duty from which by the grace of God I am noe more capable of swerving than by renouncing my hopes of Heaven. I say this in behalfe of my elder brother and the rest of my nearest relations as well as for my selfe. You may intirely depend upon us not only for a constant adherence to soe well chosen a principle, but for our utmost activity to promote your interests which are inseperable from our own. I neede come to noe particulars by this bearer whoe can and will tell you our whole hearts. I wish you could see them, how sincerely they are devoted to your service. God grant you a most happy New Year, and many, very many, and very happy. Our young master has all our best wishes. He daily gains more freinds and wee get ground of his adversaries. New Year's Eve.

Superscribed for Mr. Redding."

Yesterday Mr. Ashton came upon his trial and the same letters that were produced against Lord Preston were evidenced against him. Captain Billup swore he took them out of his bosom, and among Lord

Preston's memoranda was inserted that most of the clergy of England were well affected to King James except those of London. There was also a copy of a declaration published by King James at his landing, the contents being to promise to invade no man's liberty nor property, to preserve the Church of England as established by law, to grant a general toleration, and endeavour a reconciliation between the episcopal and Kirk people in Scotland. Other letters were written as from a tenant complaining of his new landlord, who was undone by vexatious taxes, and if his old landlord would come again they would give him quiet possession. Another was written as from a merchant to his correspondent shewing the decay of trade and advising that the coffee and clothes be returned by April or it would come too late, meaning the French guns and sails. Mr. Ashton in his defence owned the hiring of the vessel and that he was going to France, but said his design was to gather some debts and settle accounts between the late Queen and Colonel Warden deceased, and that he knew nothing of the contents of the papers, but being asked to produce any accounts he could find none. At last the Jury withdrew and after half an hour brought him in guilty; after which Lord Preston and he received sentence of death as in case of high treason. The sessions concluded that evening so there was not time to try Major Elliot and therefore that was sent till next term. We have no advice yet of the King being landed in Holland.

[Edward Harley] to Sir Edward Harley.

[16]90[-1], January 24—Great endeavours are used to save Lord Preston. It is said he is writing a narrative. Others think some great men are afraid to let him be taken off. All persons but his lady are forbidden to come to him. Ashton is to be executed on Monday. The trial and letters will speedily be printed. One letter says things at St. Germains are too public, and Sir E. Seymour, Vice-Chamberlain to the Queen, says Porter is false. It is said the Earl of Devonshire is going to Vienna to mediate a peace between the Turk and the Empire.

Sir Christopher Musgrave to Robert Harley.

1690-[91], January 22. Edenhall (Ednall)—The Turkish horse is valued at 130*l*. Ten years old, unstrained, his limbs very clean and in a fine condition. His height is fifteen hands wanting one inch.

E. C—— to Robert Harley at Brampton.

[16]90-1, January 29. Plough Yard, Fetter Lane—Mr. Ashton was executed at Tyburn; he had the favour to be carried there in a coach and his body to be given entire to his relations, who buried him last night from Russell's the embalmer in Fleet Street. He would not permit the Ordinary to pray with him, but desired Sir Francis Child to let him have the divine that went along with him, to perform the last ghostly offices, which was permitted. They say it was Divine Hicks and after him came little Cook of Islington, both non-jurats, who did their duties to him, and so he went into the other world. Lord Pr[eston] was at Lord Sid[ney's] office on Monday night with him and the Marquis of Carmarthen for above an hour and a half. Ashton gave the Sheriff a paper which he desired might be printed.

E. H[arley] to [Sir Edward Harley].

[16]90[-1], February 3—The account of the continuance of your indisposition is received with the due concern which it demands from me.

It is said Lord Preston will be executed this week. Others say he has made a confession and named only two persons, Lord Weymouth and Sir E. Seymour. The Bishop of Ely has arrived in France. A proclamation is issuing out to apprehend him and Lord Preston's brother. It is said the German Princes expect large supplies of money from the English and Dutch, to carry on the war.

[The Same [to] the [Same?]

[16]90[-1], February 10—I am informed that Lord Nottingham is accused by Lord Preston. Something of moment is discovered, for upon the receipt of Lord Preston's papers an express was despatched to the King, who is now going to meet the King of Denmark in Westphalia.

Robert Harley to his father, Sir Edward Harley.

[16]90-1, March 2. Gloucester—We are just arrived here, and ready to go away immediately for Barnsley.

The Same to the Same.

[16]90-1, March 7—I gave my wife an account of our safe arrival and that our journey and passage were comfortable. Thursday the two first Commissioners were sworn by the Master of the Rolls. Immediately they administered the oath to Sir P. C—— Mr. P. F[oley] and R. H[arley]. Next day we all met in the Speaker's Chamber, thence adjourned to view a house in York Buildings, where some hot words did pass between some. But all is calmed and I hope it will be a warning to prevent all sallies of passion. Sir M. Andrewes and R. H[arley] were deputed to contract for that house. On Monday we meet again and I hope settle to business soundly. There will be some disputes about the method. Sir Thomas Clarges has taken a great deal of worthy pains.

[The Same to the Same.]

[16]90-1, March 10—All these days have been swallowed up in the preliminaries of the Commission, and I have had so much more business, being employed by the Commissioners to treat about several matters for the settling of their house. This day they sate very late and heats are pretty well all rid, and the handle for them for the most part taken away. The principal officers are chosen by ballot. They are upon oath to keep secrets and not to take any reward or money but what the Commissioners give. An oath of secrecy is proposed and under debate for the Commissioners. Some propose only parole of honour.

The reconciliation between Presbyterians and Independents is adjusted, "only hands off." All that I hear is intended is that they will mutually hear each other.

The Same to [the Same.]

[16]90-1, March 12—Business now has taken off the edge of our passions and we are fallen to it with calmness and diligence. We are yet taken up with issuing out precepts.

The Same to the Same.

16[90]-1. March 14—Giving foreign intelligence.

The Same to the Same.

[16]90–1, March 17—Cousin Pelham is for the most part at Sir Thomas Lee's. He, before his death, made a solemn profession that he never received money from Clarendon or Carmarthen. When he was opened there was no water in him but all fat. His very legs cut fat to the bone.

The news of Mons surprises many. No further account is come. Though a story is reported that the siege is raised, yet few credit it.

The Same to the Same.

1690–1, March 21—Lord Salisbury's two brothers in Paris have quarrelled and one killed the other.

The hundred and four whales cast upon the Orcades are judged by the Council of Scotland to belong to the King and not to the Marquis of Athol.

It is greatly fear Mons cannot hold out, and an army able to relieve it will hardly be brought together. The French have promised to forgive the contribution to all within their quarters if they will plough up their green corn and meadows and thereby destroy all forage. Some are afraid Namur will be as easily taken as Mons, but neither Jacobite or Williamite have had any intelligence thence these seven days.

Sir Christopher Musgrave to Robert Harley, in King Street.

[16]90–1, March 21. Edenhall—It is very reasonable that in your office you should be under an obligation of secrecy, and my curiosity shall never press the violating of it, but if you can steal a spare minute to give me some little hints of the public affairs it will be a great charity to one in so remote a corner, and under so great a retirement. The removal of Wildman is very surprising though very fortunate for some of our society. In times of so great expense I did not expect a pension of 3,500*l.* would have been granted. I should be sorry that French person should have reached our friend Coningsby.

The Same to the Same.

[1691], March 24—"Jack How's loss of his key will not spoyle his eloquence. It is a riddle to me that Mr. Hampden should have the precedency if he had it not of Sir John. The apoplectique fit gives the Speaker just cause of sadnes, his interest ought to improve, haveing the number of his friends increased. I believe a prorogation will be before the sitting of the Parliament, and if that had been sooner doubtles it would have given satisfaction, priviledg being a great hardship to very many."

Robert Harley to Sir Edward Harley.

1690–1, March 24—The Earl of Marlborough is hastening his equipage for Flanders. The Treasury here is so full of money that they will receive no more loans. It is thought there is some secret treaty with Sarsfield or some of the great officers in Ireland, but if Mons should fall into French hands I fear it would alter that project.

Ashton's speech is printed with reflections upon it that are licensed, which establish King William's right to be by conquest. It is thought St. Asaph is the author. Five thousand arms ordered for Ireland are countermanded lest the town should be destitute.

The Same to the Same.

[16]91, March 28—Great are the expectations of what will be the account from Flanders. Many talk of making towns as soon as they can.

J. Hampden to [Sir Edward Harley].

1691, March 28, London—I promised to give you some account of public affairs when I came to London, but after having spoken with all people, I find the condition of things so unaccountable that I know not what to say. We have no better intelligence of land affairs by our sweet Secretary than we had last year of those at sea.

Our friend Mayor Wildman is turned out disgracefully and, as he assures me, without the least intimation of any miscarriage on his part. All that has been said of his writing into Holland and opening the King's packets is a mere plan, and the true reason being to make way for another sort of man, as we see it practised in all parts of the government. We thought being for the Bill of Exclusion, venturing our lives to bring this King in, and setting him upon the throne in despite of those who had murdered our friends and betrayed our liberties, had been things of great merit, but we were deceived, for they were the greatest of crimes, and certain marks of republicans. The poor Duke of Savoy is like to be lost, there being nothing done for him, though we have had a whole summer and winter to find expedients for his assistance. There is no rigour in any part of our government but in Ireland, where our army does vigorously oppress and pillage those who —as the phrase is—are under our obedience. If there were nothing to complain of but free quarter, people would be pretty well contented, for those who are not paid must not however be starved; but the officers are always sending out parties whose business is plundering and cow-catching, and they keep regular markets of cattle once a week or fortnight, at every one of which they usually take seven or eight hundred pounds. Tis supposed Douglas alone has got for his share, twenty thousand pounds, and the rest in proportion, and tis to no purpose to complain, for there is no discipline nor order at all observed. I perceive that my nephew, your son "applys himselfe to his business with much care and diligence, which I am very glad to see. I hope he will be an ornament to his country and an usefull instrument for its good."

Sir Christopher Musgrave to Robert Harley, in King Street.

[16]91, March 30. Edenhall—Your account of the siege of Mons is very "particular." I heartily wish that the great endeavours of our King may be answered with a reasonable relief of the place. It seems very strange that a body of 80,000 men and so great a train of artillery could be drawn together. I wish Ireland were settled by a treaty, though we lost the benefit of the forfeitures, that so we might solely apply ourselves against France. I am glad money comes in so well because it will free us from censure if affairs do not succeed.

Robert Harley to Sir Edward Harley.

1691, March 31—The great expectation is what will be the success of the siege of Mons. Great sums of money are continually laid in wagers, with great odds that it will be taken.

The postmasters have raised a debate with us concerning paying for our letters directed to the Board as Commissioners. "They refuse to admit, though they wil to a single Parliament man."

The Same to the Same.

1691, April 4—Yesterday came letters from Plymouth with the news that the siege of Mons was raised upon the approach of King William and the confederate army. Mr. Walpole has married Lady Anne Cook without her father, Carmarthen's, consent.

The Same to the Same.

[16]91, April 7—Lady Powis is dead and the care of the pretended Prince of Wales is committed to Lady Howard, widow of Lord Thomas, lately drowned.

"I find there is like to be a formal business made of the speaking raven at Wigmore." I hope if I am not too late to stop the publishing of it to-morrow.

The matters of accounts goes on very vigorously. "I doubt money hath stuck to the fingers of some in armes—v. 88—it may be 2000*l.*" I think we have cleared the point with the postmasters about paying for letters directed to us as a Board.

A. Pye, to her cousin, Abigail Harley, at Brampton.

1691, April 9—People are surprised and damped that Mons surrendered in so short a time, and more ill news is come upon the neck of it, as one of our men of war blown up in the Thames with five hundred men, a rich Guinea ship lately lost near home, and the French have taken a small ship of the Bilbao fleet and like to be very successful in Savoy; too much in every place. *Signet.*

Robert Harley to Sir Edward Harley.

[16]91, April 11—On Thursday began a fire in Whitehall in Lady Fitzhardinge's apartment, supposed to be through the carelessness of a maid servant who going to fetch a candle burned it off and left the whole pound on fire against a wainscot. It has consumed about two-thirds of the Stone Gallery, all Lord Devonshire's, and part of the Earl of Monmouth's. It came to the Earl of Portland's but did not burn it. The Turkey fleet valued at two millions is arrived at Leghorn with a convoy of eight men-of-war. Aylmer with his squadron ought to join them, else they will be in danger from the French fleet at Villafranca.

Two proclamations have come out. One for a fast on the 29th April and a monthly one after; another against Papists and disaffected persons.

The Same to the Same.

[16]91, April 14—The *Hannibal* a merchant ship turned into a man-of-war and convoy to the Bilbao fleet, is come in with above 100,000 pieces of eight aboard. Last night the King landed. He looks very well in health. Sir William Hussey is gone from Vienna, with instructions from the Emperor to treat for peace at Constantinople.

A second paper pretending to be Ashton's is spread abroad to insinuate he is put to death because of the proof he could make of the legitimacy of the pretended Prince of Wales. This is to counteract some project now carrying on by that party.

Lewis Lloyd to Sir Edward Harley.

1691, April 16. Presteign—Giving an account of most of the ministers in South Wales. *Signet.*

THOMAS LITTLETON to ROBERT HARLEY, in Bloomsbury.

1691, April 18. The Tower—Regretting that he could not have him as tenant for his chambers in the Temple as they were already let to young Lord Jeffreys. *Signet.*

ROBERT HARLEY to SIR EDWARD HARLEY.

[16]91, April 18—On Thursday one Brabant, who had been collector of customs at Newcastle and turned out, came to Sir J. Lowther and demanded satisfaction of him or else he would kill him immediately. They went in a hackney coach to the park, and fought, and Sir J. Lowther was wounded in the shoulder and disarmed. The other escaped, it being a great misdemeanour to challenge a privy councillor. A great knot of coiners and clippers have been discovered in the north. A clergyman who was the greatest artist is condemned and executed at York.

There is a whisper Sir H. Goodrich is to be removed to Sir J. Lowther's place in the Treasury and Sir Robert Rich succeed in the ordnance. God is able to save a sinking nation, but if we look to the multitude and blackness of our sins or any pretence of outward support, it can afford but melancholy considerations. Ireland is worse punished by their deliverers than their enemies, and the civil government comes in for a share with the enemy. I see most miserable accounts from thence. They give protections for 6*d.* apiece to all the rogues of the nations. One of the judges has given 15,000 such.

There is some likelihood of a marriage between my father-in-law Foley and Lady Maynard. I hope, if it succeed, it will be for the good of the family. You are pleased to mention my wife's taking the housekeeping upon her. I know she will be always ready to obey what you shall command, and what method you will please to order she will study to observe; but I humbly beg leave to offer to your consideration the lessening the family but that at the dairy house. She is but young; it is her first entrance upon business of this nature; the children are but young, and if she should nurse again it would be more troublesome. What is more, I think it will be a great ease to the expense of the family.

SIR C. M[USGRAVE] to ROBERT HARLEY.

1691, April 20. Edenhall—It seems the belief of relieving Mons hath relieved several persons pockets. The loss of the town is very unfortunate. It seems the priests hastened the delivery of it. Things seldom prosper under their influence. I wish they may not dispose the inhabitants of that country to be in love with the French Government.

His Majesty's return great joy, and a little time will show where the great scene of action will be this year. If the Commissioners of Accounts are too inquisitive into matters they will not be the soldiers darlings.

ROBERT HARLEY to SIR EDWARD HARLEY.

[16]91, April 21—Yesterday morning Sir Francis Child, one of the Sheriffs, gave notice to Lord Preston to prepare for death. He did not seem much discomposed, having, it is supposed, notice thereof before the Sheriff came. The Earl of Suffolk and Lord Herbert of Cherbury are dead. It is generally believed Elliot will be bailed next term and not tried. A stranger, a Frenchman, has been seized who was discovered hiding three fireballs in a ditch near Soho Fields.

The Same to the Same.

[16]91, April 25—Yesterday at the sessions were tried there that laid the wagers that the late King would be possessed of Dublin in ten months. They are fined and to give security for their behaviour until the time of their wagers expires. The Cadiz fleet is safely arrived, and we hear that our Straits fleet having notice that the French intended to attempt them at Leghorn came away in March.

Sir C. M[usgrave] to Robert Harley.

1891, April 27—The approaching term hath discovered a sad fate to poor Lord Preston which is more terrible because, I suppose he believed the bitterness of death was over. I heard of the duel. Fighting is a poor satisfaction to a family of seven or eight persons that are starving by having their bread given away without the pretence of a crime.

Money will be welcome to Scotch noblemen, for it is not very plentiful in their own land, but I believe we can spare them none. If the bishoprics be supplied many clergymen will be highly promoted.

Robert Harley to [Sir Edward Harley].

1691, April 29—Lord Portland is entirely retired from Court.

The Same to the Same.

[16]91, April 30—The alterations made in the Church were resolved before his Majesty's voyage to Flanders, to the regret of the great ministers and particularly expressed by London and Worcester.

[The Same] to]the Same.]

[16]91, May 2—The King went from Kensington yesterday. The Queen accompanied him as far as Burnt Wood. He went on board at Harwich last night. Lord Preston sent the King a letter by Lord Sidney, and yesterday the Earls of Devonshire and Nottingham were with him several hours. It is supposed he is reprieved. Prince George goes on board the *Lord Berkeley* as a volunteer.

Sir C. M[usgrave] to Robert Harley.

1691, May 4—The alterations in church are great, and if public letters are to be credited therein the state will not be inferior. If they keep us in peace we have reason to approve of them. When so great a Lord was to be sworn it was very proper to have the prayers said by the bishop. They know one another. Your tenderness in the matter of blood is commendable and declares the goodness of your nature. I think that Lord hath been most unhappy in his management whatever his fate may be. I always believed great abuses in the muster of Ireland but must acknowledge they surmounted my imagination. I wish that may not retard the settlement of the kingdom.

Robert Harley to Sir Edward Harley.

[16]91, May 5—The King has declared that Sir William Pulteney should be judge though Sergeant Powell was thought to be fixed upon, also Sir Henry Hobart is dismissed from being Gentleman of the Horse to the King. Prince George is going as a volunteer. It is supposed something further is designed and that probably our fleet will have land

forces on board. Whatever the scheme is it has been kept secret from the ministers here. This of Pulteney's being a judge will continue a great feud between the judges and the Chancery. Sir S. Trevor went to Harwich. There the judge was declared though Powell without seeking was promised and a warrant ordered for him.

The Same to the Same.

1691, May 9—There is a story in town of an attempt to blow up the *Defiance*, commanded by Captain Gurney. An express came this week from Dublin. It reported that the Irish were miserably poor and their army in a sorry condition. The Marquis of Carmarthen's patent for 3,500*l.* for thirty-one years is now engrossing. Lord Preston wrote his confession with his own hand. The Earls of Devonshire and Nottingham sealed it up in his presence without reading it, and delivered it to the Queen, who delivered it to the Marquis of Carmarthen, so the confession is a secret.

[The Same] to [the Same.]

[16]91, May 12—Dr. Ken, late Bishop of Bath and Wells, as soon as he heard another was named in his place, came to the cathedral at prayers, rose up when the prayer was for King William and Queen Mary; after which he preached and told them he was their only lawful pastor.

Prince George after all does not go to sea. From Rome they write the common people there are much exasperated against the French and speak kindly of our King.

There is some suspicion of evil practices in our fleet, from Lord Preston's confession. But Lady Dorchester's gives greater light, though that is a secret. She gave notice what questions to ask Preston.

The Same to the Same.

[16]91, May 14—The East India Company have notice of the peace made with the Mogul. Advice also is come, to the great satisfaction of the merchants, that Aylmer with his convoy joined our Scanderoon's, Smyrna, and the rest of the vastly rich Straits fleet, about Corsica. Now they have about sixteen English and Dutch men-of-war.

The French King has made a medal of his own head, the reverse King James. The motto "*Aut dethronator aut rethronateris.*" The Latin bad, the policy worse, to put his subject in mind of dethroning.

Sir Thomas Clarges to Robert Harley.

1691, May 14—Concerning the alteration of the superscription of a letter from the Commission to Lord Justice Coningsby in Dublin, which had been sent to him in his capacity of Paymaster of the Forces and no mention had therefore been made of his quality of Lord Justice. *Signed.*

Sir C. M[usgrave] to Robert Harley.

1691, May 14—If Sir W. Pulteney be made a judge we lose a useful member of Parliament. No question but Mr. Guy and others are obliged to be earnest solicitors, and it may be an ingredient to his promotion making way for another's preferment in the privy seal.

Bankers have had great advantages which pinches the country, for their poverty is very great, and retrenchment were more reasonable than large pensions. The Russells have luck to widows. It is wonderful my Lord Clarendon accepts not his liberty on the King's terms.

ROBERT HARLEY to SIR EDWARD HARLEY.

[16]91, May 16—Dr. Beveridge, designed Bishop of Bath and Wells, refuses it now, and is thereupon removed from Whitehall and being chaplain to their Majesties. One Beach, a minister, is brought into custody for saying King William was made king by the same means as Our Saviour was set upon the pinnacle of the Temple. An indictment of high treason is found against William Penn in Ireland. This afternoon there is a whisper that a great body of men, near 6,000, are in arms in Scotland. The Duke of Queensbury and other lords are here, having newly their pardons for being present at hearing read or being privy to the correspondence with King James. It is generally believed a peace is privately treating with France.

The SAME to the SAME.

1691, May 19—The East India Company have made a peace according to the firman (Phirmand) from the Mogul. They are obliged to restore all the effects they have taken in India, which amounts to almost as much as they are worth.

[SIR EDWARD HARLEY] to ROBERT HARLEY, in King Street.

[16]91, May 22—Concerning the Weobly election.

ROBERT PRICE to ROBERT HARLEY.

1691, May 22. Foxley—On the same subject, and giving his reason why he could not support Mr Foley.

ROBERT HARLEY to SIR EDWARD HARLEY.

1691, May 23—Giving rumours from Ireland and Scotland.

[The SAME] to [the SAME.]

[16]91, May 26—The late Archbishop of Canterbury has begun to remove his goods, and promises to quit Lambeth Whit Sunday. The Archbishop is to be consecrated in Bow Church. The Duke of Ormond, the Marquis of Winchester, the Earl of Essex, Lord Hyde, Lord Drumlanrig, and Mr. Henry Boyle are for Flanders.

The SAME to the SAME.

[16]91, May 28—Concerning the approaching election at Weobly.

SIR C. M[USGRAVE] to ROBERT HARLEY.

1691, June 1—It is strange twenty-six men-of-war and many tenders could sail undiscovered. A squadron on the Irish coast might have interrupted their landing such quantities of stores and consequently shortened the war in Ireland. When a clergyman refuses a good bishopric it is a pity to tempt him with a second proffer.

ROBERT HARLEY to SIR EDWARD HARLEY.

1691, June 2—There was no feast made at the consecration of the Archbishop, he being resolved to lay out the money upon the building of Paul's, and avoid the offence great entertainments usually give on such occasions.

New England has got a confirmation to their content. Their governor is to be nominated here, and they to appoint his deputy. I confess I cannot but apprehend this is parting with all, though they are pleased. "I should, Sir, be very far from accepting or entertaining anything of much less concerne than a place, without acquainting you and receiving your counsel and permission. There is no color for any such report. Since I came up I have not been in Whitehal but once, sent of business by the Board, and another time walked through to see the ruines of the fire. I beg of God to give me wisdom to walk not unbecoming the profession of His name and of your son."

The Same to the Same.

1691, June 4—The late King is departed from St. Germains with a very great equipage; whither is not yet known. There is talk of a dissolution, on one hand carried on by hot-headed men, and by the Lord President for another end. Some think it is only in order to frighten into a compliance with a home excise next session.

The Same to Same.

1691, June 6—Giving Flemish and Irish news.

[Sir Christopher Musgrave] to Robert Harley.

[16]91, June 8—"At present our danger seems blowne over. It is wonderfull that places of so great importance, upon which our fate almost depends, should not be secured against surprise, haveing suffered so much already by neglects of that kind. Will nothing awaken the confederates nor make the Spaniard mend his pace, but leave all to chance? Miracles ceased long agoe, theirfor if wee neglect the meanes the event may be easily foreseen."

Robert Harley to Sir Edward Harley.

1691, June 9—We have now our whole Board again except Sir S. Barnardiston. I am obliged again to the chair, as Colonel Austen's lame hand disables him. Mr. Jephson, Secretary to the Treasury died on the 7th. The most probable candidates to succeed him are Sir Robert Southwell and Mr. Henry Guy. There is a report that Lady Gainsborough will marry Dr. Kerr, and the Bishop of London will marry Lady Plymouth, daughter to the Marquis Carmarthen.

The Same to the Same.

[16]91, June 13—Giving news of the campaigns in Flanders and Ireland, and announcing the safe arrival of his wife, in town.

[The Same] to [the Same.]

Same date—"The paper received last night could not but occasion great thoughts of heart, tho' in the great commotion and distraction by the multiplicity of business hath been my lot this day, may be less fit so fully to express myself as this great occasion requires, yet deem it absolutely due to the duty owing a father endeared by innumerable tokens of affection, and to what is dearest to a man and a Christian, to give the soonest answer, which, God willing, shal be enlarged.

In the first place I desire to look up to Heaven, without the permission of which neither a hair falls to the ground nor a cubit taken

from our reputation, and I doe most humbly and syncerely bend my knees to the Father of mercies imploring his mercie and grace, that this rebuke may bring forth in my soul a joyful harvest of humble, strict walking, with al circumspect holyness, in faith and obedience. As to the matter charged I beg leave to say with syncerity and singleness of heart, I trust I have that in me that I dare confess my faults, rather by much than add to them by the covering of a lye. I can most solemly declare I have not been in any public-house—except just the time of dining—since I came out of the country. I have so absolutly withdrawn myself from al acquaintance that I have spent al the time hath not been taken up in my public and privat affairs with one person only at the Temple, whom I have—for divers reasons—constantly attended in the evening.

It is possible from many shots of the like nature, I could easily guess the bow whence this poysoned arrow was shot; but I desire to look higher that it may be admonition to more heavenly mindedness and humility, for which I humbly beg the concurrence of your prayers, and that you wil please to permit me to interpret this holy jelosie of yours over me an additional mark of your most tender affection to him who with al humility and obedience beseeches your blessing."

[Edward Harley] to Sir Edward Harley.

[16]91, June 13—We came safe to London last night. The fall of the coach might have been of sad consequence, it being by the steep bank of a brook. My aunt and sister being very desirous to see the children at Bourton, Harry caused his sister to bring them into the way below the house. They were very clean dressed and are fine children. Mr. Popham was there about a fortnight since. I was told in the town that his mother made him promise he would not see them.

I mentioned what you commanded me in reference to New England. It is feared that this new proposal of an accommodation may prove very fatal to their liberties. I spoke with a merchant this evening who is concerned in the Levant fleet. He says there is great hopes they are arrived in Kinsale.

[Robert Harley] to [Sir Edward Harley.]

1691, June 16—Advice has come that the English have had success in recovering most places of fishing in Newfoundland. Last night Lord Chief Justice Pollexfen died.

Sir C. M[usgrave] to Robert Harley.

1691, June 22—Time doth not improve the Irish in fighting. I am confident Athlone will not hold out long. It is great comfort that the Scots are quiet. If Sir Robert Sawyer should be Chief Justice I shall wonder at nothing. If there be thoughts of a dissolution, they should not be executed till the end of the campaign.

Robert Harley to Sir Edward Harley.

1691, June 23—Sir William Hussey has arrived at Belgrade and is received with great compliments by the Serasquier, who told him the message of peace he came about would make him as welcome to the Porte as an angel.

It is reported Sir J. Trevor puts in to be Chief Justice, but that I can hardly believe.

The Same to the Same.

[16]91, June 27—Thursday night the poll for officers in the City was closed. For Sheriffs, Sir William Ashurst, 3,631; Alderman Levet, 2,252; Alderman Gore, 1,774. For Chamberlain, Mr. Robinson, 2,155; Sir Peter Rich, 1,882; Mr. Amy, 2. Thursday was named for the scrutiny, but Sir Peter Rich did not come. It is supposed the disproportion being so great they will not insist further on a scrutiny. This affair is a matter of great thanks, and considering the precedent trial in Westminster Hall and other circumstances, is a very signal providence. Yesterday was the trial in the Exchequer about the silver mines in Sir Carbery Price's ground. The jury found it to be a lead mine.

"My wife hath a cold, that she cannot hold down her head to write."

Edward Harley to his father, Sir Edward Harley.

[16]91, June 27—I have endeavoured to find a good security for the money in Mr. F[oley's] hands. I have been told great advantage may be made by buying tallies. I am offered some secured by the land tax and payable before Candlemas.

All hopes of reconciliation [concerning the Weobly election] are at an end between Mr. Birch and Mr. F[oley]. The latter relies upon his father's interest in the House for the present, and upon his purse for the future; the other, as he says, upon the justness of his cause and interest in that town. B[irch] says men brought from Hereford lay with some of the townsmens' wives, who prevailed with their husbands to oppose him. I doubt there was much wickedness on both sides which must entail a curse upon a Parliament when the greatest part of the members are so elected.

Robert Harley to Sir Edward Harley.

1691, June 30—Giving news from Flanders and Ireland.

The Earl of Macclesfield to the Deputy Lieutenants of Herefordshire.

1691, July 2. London—I design to visit your parts very speedily, and therefore recommend to your care the condition of your militia both horse and foot. In other counties the militia are clothed, and I hope you take like measures.

The Same to the Same.

[16]91, July 2—Giving an account of the movements of the fleet.

[Edward Harley] to Sir Edward Harley.

[16]91, July 2—I am offered tallies secured by the hereditary excise at eight per cent., payable at Michaelmas. Mr. Foley now seems desirous to keep the money.

I doubt Weobly election has been of great prejudice to his nephew. Common report says he offered the sheriff 100*l.* not to put the return in for Mr. Birch, and that some indirect practices have been used with the Speaker.

ROBERT HARLEY to SIR EDWARD HARLEY.

1691, July 4—There has been a great uproar in Whitefriars occasioned by stopping up one of their passages to the Temple. They first beat off the sheriffs and their posse, but with the assistance of two companies of foot they were dissipated. I hope this will prove the rooting out of that nursery of villainy.

The SAME to the SAME.

[16]91, July 7—The fleet seen from Kinsale are supposed to be the French, who stay about Cape Clear to intercept our Turkey fleet. Our fleet went after them, but where they are this day is not certain. Brother Edward went this day into the bagnio.

The SAME to the SAME.

1691, July 11—My wife wished to see Miss Popham. They called at her aunt's. Her grandmother was there but they saw none but the child and her father. They brought her to dinner and brought her back again.

Ludlow Charter I hope will be carried through all its obstructions.

The SAME to the SAME.

[16]91, July 14—The coming in of the Turkey fleet is a great mercy. Where the French or our fleet are we know not.

I began again the trouble of the chair in my turn, and have been enforced to employ all spare time for Ludlow. We hope to vacate the surrender that will make the whole matter clear and possibly make the charter of restitution needless.

[EDWARD HARLEY] to SIR EDWARD HARLEY.

[16]91, July 14—The Queen on Friday sent a letter to the Justices of Middlesex at the sessions requiring them to take all effectual methods for the suppressing of profane swearing, the profanation of the Lord's Day, and the sin of drunkeness, and accordingly the sessions have made an order.

ROBERT HARLEY to SIR EDWARD HARLEY.

1691, July 16—Cousin Pelham went to-day to Bath in the three days coach. Lord Dartmouth has been examined upon some information given by Lord Preston, but is now at liberty. The powder room at the Tower has fallen down without doing any mischief.

The SAME to the SAME.

1691, July 21—Yesterday I received notice from our Lord Lieutenant [Lord Macclesfield] at Bath, he had at our desire put off the muster till after harvest. If the country resolve to have the regiment clothed, it may be done cheap and well, to be sent down in a fortnight; but it is always an unthankful office to have anything of that nature to do for the country, and it is scarce possible to please them or to be allowed to be honest, so upon these considerations it would be better to do it in the country.

SIR C. M[USGRAVE] to ROBERT HARLEY.

1691, July 20—The taking of Athlone in the view of a numerous army with the loss of so few men is not to be paralleled, and after ages will account it a romance. I am much concerned that my Lord Dartmouth should be brought upon the stage, which is a great misfortune, though I am very confident of his innocency and believe that none that hath common understanding and knew the Lord you mentioned would refuse confidence in him.

ROBERT HARLEY to SIR EDWARD HARLEY.

1691, July 25—There is a report the Queen Dowager will go to Portugal, and a passage for her will be treated through France. An express brought tidings last night that the ships which got out of Dunkirk had landed some men in Northumberland, who plundered and then burned the house of Lord Widdrington, a papist.

The SAME to the SAME.

1691, July 28—Monsieur Barillon is dead in France, and last night Don Pedro de Rongillos, Spanish ambassador here, died.

The SAME to the SAME.

1691, August 1—Lord Preston at last is returned but refuses to be a witness. The Duke of Newcastle is dead and has left 20,000*l.* to his unmarried daughter and his estate to Lord Clare.

I have sent you some olives, which are now good, capers, anchovies, vinegar, and but two quarts of oil; the best oil that came in is not yet being sold. I send two dozen of Strasburg wine. They say it is the best that ever came to England.

The SAME to the SAME.

1691, August 4—Lord Dartmouth is sent to the Tower and there is a report that Lord Preston is so also and Lord Torrington. If so it is by direction from Flanders. It is a matter for great rejoicing that the attempt for the reformation of manners succeeds beyond expectation, and the city concurs so far. They have by order suppressed Bartholomew Fair for longer than three days, which is to be only for the sale of cattle &c. Thereby will be prevented a great deal of lewdness.

SIR THOMAS CLARGES to ROBERT HARLEY.

1691, August 7—I cannot but be troubled for our plantations in America, for if the ships which were going there with provisions are taken, with their convoy, I know not how they or the ships we have there can subsist; and the three men-of-war which the French have there can do more to our loss than the fourteen ships under Captain Wright can effect to their prejudice.

I am not in a place to be provided with news. All I learn here is that wheat is worth forty shillings a quarter, and a great part of that upon the ground is blighted.

ROBERT HARLEY to SIR EDWARD HARLEY.

[16]91, August 8—Corn rises very much everywhere. Last night the public received a great loss by the death of Sir Philip Skippon of a fever at Hackney. His two daughters lie at the point of death of the

same distemper. Mr. John Simpson Ascot at the beginning of the revolution great with Lord Portland, who after went away to King James and was there knighted, is now come back hither and pretends to discoveries. The like is from letters taken at Metz, sent by the Emperor to the King. Whether this is to be a plot or which way it will turn I know not. There are two chests of wine from Aleppo for you.

The Same to the Same.

1691, August 11.—The French captain who took our Russia ships is sent prisoner to France because he did not burn them as he had orders to do.

Roger Coke to Edward Harley, at the Grecian Coffee House in Devereux Court, Temple.

[16]91, August 12—"I have a certaine itch to be a worthy member of Parliament. You need not doubt but it is for the publique good and in particular for the deare honour and esteem I have for a great statesman and my noble Lord cousin. There seemes to me an occasion now offered whereby it's possible it may be effected. Sir Philip Skippon—who was fellow burgess with Sir Robert Rich for Dunwich in Suffolk—is dead, and my father was several times burgess of it, and my brother dyed burgess of it. Its a pittyfull poore town, and as the Church of England is *semimortua* and *semisepulta*, so is this corporation half eaten up by the sea.

There is a certain great man in this corporation, one John Benefice, men call him King John, as great here as my Lord cousin is in the Councell of State; who, if he were made for me, I am apt to thinke the game were won. I thinke Sir Robert Rich is the likelyest man to win him to my side, but my acquaintance with Sir Robert is only by your mediation, and therefore that you can much more herein than I can hope to doe without you." If I receive any comfort from you I shall improve the matter, as far as I can in the country. "I hope this humble paper will not much interrupt your publique concernes." *Signet.*

Robert Harley to Sir Edward Harley.

[16]91, August 13—I am extremely sorry to hear of the presentment of Mr. J. W. by the Grand Jury for not taking the oaths. If the fact be true I am grieved for the occasion.

The Same to the Same.

[16]91, August 15—The design of outward reformation goes on vigorously. The Duke of Norfolk was constrained to pay 5*l.* for breaking the Sabbath by gambling. The Queen has been persuaded to send to the Lord Mayor to enlarge the time of Bartholomew fair to what is usual.

Sir Thomas Clarges to Robert Harley, one of the Commissioners of Accounts.

1691, August 16— If the report be true of the King's going to Loo, I think the confederate army in Flanders will be upon the defensive for the remainder of the summer. I wish we might hear of the taking of Limerick that that back-door might be shut. Some letters from London mention the calling of a Parliament in Ireland, which I can hardly believe. *Signet.*

ROBERT HARLEY to SIR EDWARD HARLEY.

[16]91, August 18—I hope the dreadful thunder and lightning on Thursday and last night has had no bad effect with you. Last night one or two perished by it. On Thursday an honest gentleman in the Strand had his breeches burned and the chair on which they lay, singed. Six and sixpence in his pocket, melted but that was not burned.

SIR THOMAS CLARGES to ROBERT HARLEY.

1691, August 19—I perceive by letter from Flanders that the walls of Beaumont are to be "slighted," to prevent its being possessed by the French in the winter.

ROGER COKE to ROBERT HARLEY, at the Grecian Coffee House.

[16]91, August 20—"The early return of yours, Sir, makes me *terque quaterque beatum*, for it confirms me that I bear some part of your friendship, which before was but imaginary and saves me some expence besides loss of time in solliciting that which I would not buy too deare, and I thank Sir Robert Rich for his caution in preventing it; but whosoever the unknown candidate is, I will lay a wager he carrys the election against Sir Robert Kemp."

E[LIZABETH] HARLEY to her father [-in-law], SIR EDWARD HARLEY.

[16]91, August 22. London—A letter of affection and respect.

ROBERT HARLEY to SIR EDWARD HARLEY.

[16]91, August 22—The Court of Aldermen have forbidden all the stage plays at Bartholomew Fair. The others are resolved to keep them up the fourteen days, which may occasion a tumult in suppressing them.

The SAME to the SAME.

1691, August 25—Uncle Foley is in great concern about Weobly. He earnestly desires you will endeavour to take off Mr. Birch. I shall for the public sake and for both their sakes, be very sorry to have it heard at the Committee.

The SAME to the SAME.

[16]91, August 27—There has been a sort of mutiny at Berwick by the soldiers of Colonel Beveridge's regiment, but all is now quiet.

JOHN COLBATCH to ROBERT HARLEY, in King Street.

1691, August 27. Ludlow—Concerning a petition to be presented to Parliament by Mr. William Gower for annulling all the proceedings of the present members of the corporation of Ludlow.

The EARL OF NOTTINGHAM to —— PUCKLE.

1691, August 29, Whitehall—Directing him to proceed to France in order to obtain intelligence concerning the French fleet and promising to obtain compensation for his wife if any misfortune should happen to him.

ROBERT HARLEY to SIR EDWARD HARLEY.

1691, August 29—Giving a report of affairs in Ireland.

The SAME to the SAME.

[16]91, September 1—News from Flanders.

The SAME to the SAME.

1691, September 5—Mr. Trench tells me there is a scimitar and two chests of wine come from Aleppo but they cannot yet be found.

SIR C. M[USGRAVE] to ROBERT HARLEY.

1691, September 7—It is wonderful that the two fleets should never meet and yet our merchants fall so unfortunately into their hands, but the French ships coming from the Indies with saltpetre unattacked by the English or Dutch is miraculous. Finding the passage thither so easy they will not want the necessary warlike store, and have a prospect of an East India ship or two into the bargain. The season will make winter quarters desirable. The art of war is great when two such vast armies are in dread of each other a whole summer and cannot be forced to an engagement, which makes it plain that a war may be of longer continuance than we ignorant creatures could fancy.

At the sessions in the Old Bailey it will appear what Lord Preston will do. In a little while you will begin to discourse of the meeting of Parliament.

ROBERT HARLEY to SIR EDWARD HARLEY.

[16]91, September 8—I wrote the enclosed instructions from Mr. Paul Foley's mouth. He desires you would send for Mr. Birch to Brampton and discourse him. I perceive he is cautious not to treat with him or to offer him anything, having an ill impression of Mr. Birch, and thinks he would use at the Committee against him. This he says he will do if Birch will quit. He will perform anything that you and I agree upon.

[WEOBLY.]

1691, September 8—Memorandum of notes made by Paul Foley of the arguments to be used to induce Mr. Birch to retire from the representation of Weobly. *Referred to in the preceding letter.*

ROBERT HARLEY to SIR EDWARD HARLEY.

1691, September 12—Giving news from Flanders and Ireland.

The SAME to the SAME.

1691, September 15—William Penn got safe into France last week. The petition for Ludlow new charter is to be heard before the Privy Council in October.

The SAME to the SAME.

[16]91, September 17—Our Barbados fleet has come in, with Captain Wright, who commanded the ships sent there last year, a prisoner. He is under accusation for the loss of all the provision ships taken there by the French, either through neglect or treachery. It has proved a great matter to the plantations, being thereby deprived of those provisions without which they cannot well subsist.

[The Same] to [the Same.]

[16]91, September 19—The Weobly affair is of great concern. I fear it may prove a sore stumbling stone to both parties if it cannot be composed. I have written largely to Mr. Birch. I greatly fear he will desperately entangle himself if he complies not. I have hinted to him a matter which will greatly concern him, "his lease hath a remarkable flaw—but I had rather make a blot than express the rest." There are other troubles which may affect him. There will be a vacancy where he may be brought in this session. I shewed Mr. Birch's paper to our friend, which very much disturbed him. It will be a great mercy if it can be composed. I find no hopes on this side of getting it. Mr. P. Foley says he is satisfied of the justice of his son's cause, and will stand by him. Mr. Birch cannot expect Mr. Booth to be with him next time.

Robert Harley to John Birch, at Garnston near Weobly.

1691, September 19—Urging him to come to terms with Mr. Foley in the matter of the Weobly election. *Copy.*

Robert Harley to Sir Edward Harley.

[1691], September 22—The Earl of Westmoreland is dead. Sir Vere Fane succeeds him. I fear little or no estate is left him but what the Countess has in jointure. Yesterday afternoon I went in search of news from Aleppo. All the captains are come up and deny any letter. Mr. Trench has discovered a chest of wine, a bottle of balsam of Mecca, and a scimitar, probably the letters are in the chest.

Mr. Thomas Rutter who recently fell sick of the small pox continued for six days in a fair way. The physician gave him a hypnotic on Sunday from which he never waked.

The Same to the Same.

[16]91, September 26—A proclamation came out yesterday for Parliament to meet and sit on October 22nd. The King is expected home next week. From Constantinople it is reported the new Sultan is strangled and Sultan Mahomet formerly deposed, restored to the throne. The Queen of Spain is dead, supposed by poison; whether administered by French or Spaniards is not known.

The Same to the Same.

1691, September 29—This day began the election for Lord Mayor; Sir Thomas Stamp and Sir John Fleet set up by one side and Sir Jonathan Raymond and Sir Samuel Dashood by the other. The poll began at one o'clock and is adjourned this evening to Thursday, tomorrow being the day of swearing and presenting the Sheriff in the Exchequer. I hear Mr. Birch is in town. I am sorry nothing can be done towards a reconciliation.

The Same to the Same.

1691, October 1—Sir Thomas Stamp and Sir John Fleet have the majority of votes for being Lord Mayor so they will be presented to the Court of Aldermen.

The Same to the Same.

1691, October 3—Giving news from Ireland and Flanders.

LIMERICK.

1691, October 3—Articles of agreement for the surrender of Limerick made between Sir Charles Porter and Thomas Coningsby Esq. Lords Justices of Ireland and Baron de Ginckel of the one part and the Earl of Lucan, Viscount Galmoye, Colonel Nicholas Purcell, Colonel Nicholas Cusack, Sir Toby Butler, Colonel Garrett Dillon, and Colonel John Browne of the other part. *Copy.*

WILLIAM ROBINSON to ———.

1691, September 29 to October 4. The Camp before Limerick—An account of the last days of the siege of Limerick and of the signing of the treaty. *Copy. Signed by Robert Harley.*

ROBERT HARLEY to SIR EDWARD HARLEY.

1691, October 8—It seems very strange so many days are passed and the Queen has no express of the affair of Limerick. It is generally believed that part of the town if not all was surrendered on September 29th. The Queen of Spain has recovered.

The SAME to the SAME.

1691, October 10—Giving news of the surrender of Limerick and reports from Savoy.

JAMES BONNELL to ROBERT HARLEY, one of the Commissioners for the Public Accounts.

1691, October 10. Dublin—It is with great joy I hear you are in a part of so much public good for our country. I please myself in guessing right at the success of those whom I see growing up, but have little to attribute to myself for my bespeaking what you would make. Lord Kingsale is in this town and I sometimes visit him. I had great honour for him in King James's time for he made a more soldierly man than ever I expected. He was lieutenant-colonel to Sarsfield but stuck firm to the Protestant religion, and being once sick to death in a fever when Justin McCarthy brought priests to him and used the most pressing arguments to reduce him, he was unshaken; insomuch that McCarthy in a puff said, "come leave him, let the fool be damned in his own way." He recovered from that, but in the winter before the Boyne, finding himself slighted and poor and being continually laid at by some Popish relations, he at last changed his religion. He is now a protestant again, and the Lords Justices have granted him his own estates *in custodiam.*

[The COMMISSION of ACCOUNTS.]

1691, October 10—Sir Charles Meredith, Chancellor of the Exchequer attended the board and said that the customs and excise in Ireland both upon inland and imported goods are collected, but that the chimney money, quit rents, and crown rents, are suspended till the King shall declare the war ended.

The Accountant General has a control upon all parts of the revenue.

What was formerly the Duke of York's estate is now the King's private estate.

The Commissioners of the revenues in Ireland took into their hands the commission for sequestration of forfeited estates and the setting and disposing thereof for one year. Sir Charles took none of the said

lands nor did any of the Commissioners in their own names, but he believes Mr. Culliford and Mr. May did and that some others desisted only upon being advised from England.

Sir Charles procured with some difficulty that public notice of sales and settings might be given, and that such as were not so disposed of might be disannulled. Lands were let before Sir Charles left Ireland, to the value of 30,000*l. per annum.* Some let for little or nothing and much unset. The counties of Dublin, East Meath, Carlow, Kildare, Lowth, Kilkenny, &c. set. He had heard that 400,000*l. per annum* might be raised on the forfeited lands in Ireland.

[Sir Edward Harley] to Robert Harley, in King Street.

[16]91, October 13—On local affairs. *Seal of arms.*

Robert Harley to Sir Edward Harley.

[16]91, October 13—The King is expected the first fair wind. Some think the taking of Limerick may encourage him to stay some days. Then the parliament will only open the session, grant some writs and adjourn for a few days.

The articles of Limerick are not yet published. Some things are less than Galway had. All that are dead or killed in the rebellion are excepted out of the terms. All the living to have their estates and privileges as before. The Irish that are willing are to be transported to France. Mr. Sacheverel died on Friday at his house in the country.

The Same to the Same.

1691, October 15—"Bill, the printer's grandson pretends to be Baron Le Despencer, being of the whole blood."

The Same to the Same.

1691, October 17—A peace is agreed in the Divan with the Emperor. The differences that arise will be submitted to Sir William Hussey, the ambassador from the King of England.

Lord Preston refusing this day to take an oath to give evidence at the sessions has been committed to Newgate.

The Same to the Same.

[16]91, October 20—The King arrived last night having landed at Margate. He was received with great signs of joy, and passed through the continual shouts of the people and the streets full of bonfires and illuminations. At Shooters' Hill the coach was overturned. Lords Portland and Marlborough are a little hurt but the King escaped very well. The King seemed to take more notice of the people's acclamations than ever before. When he came ashore at the Isle of Thanet no coach was to be found, his own being ordered to Harwich and came not to him until he was at Shooter's Hill after he was overturned. He came some miles in an old coach drawn by cart horses.

The Same to the Same.

[16]91, October 22—The King has been pleased to grant [you] the Stewardship of the Lordships of Radnorshire. It is passed the Treasury and the warrant will be signed on Wednesday. The Speaker was the chief instrument in it; he told me of it to-day with great expressions of kindness, particularly to yourself. Lord Chief Justice Keating in Ireland, has shot himself.

WEOBLY.

1691, October 23—"I Robert Harley of Brampton Castle in the county of Hereford Esq. on the behalfe of Thomas Foley Esq., in consideration of an agreement made with John Birch Esq. bearing eqal date herewith, whereby he hath promised to withdraw his petition and make no defence in the cause of Weobly election now depending between Mr. Foley and Mr. Birch, doe on consideration of the performance of the said agreement by Mr. Birch promise and engage that al possible means shal be used to procure the said Mr. Birch to be elected a member for the House of Commons during this present session of Parliament, and in case the said endevor shal not succeed the sum of two hundred and sixty pounds shal be paid to the said Mr. Birch."

[SIR EDWARD HARLEY] to ROBERT HARLEY.

1691, October 24—Blessed be God for the King's safe return and preservation from all sorts of dangers. I suppose the Parliament is now sitting.

"I know not the design of the new Convocation but if the sacramental test could be discharged, I refer not so much to the gesture and formulary as to the profanes and contempt that holy spiritual mysterie is exposed and perverted."

The two weighty considerations which present themselves are Ireland and the sea affairs. If in Ireland the quarters, musters, and discipline of the armies be not well regulated, great must be the mischief; but if the civil Government be not duly administered with exact justice and unbiassed regard to the interest of England, the weeds will in short time overgrow the wheat. If the lands of Ireland do not pay for the draining by English blood and treasure, England must in short time become bog and wilderness. As for the sea, it is undeniable that until the dominion be entirely recovered, England will be poor and continually exposed. It is said an act is intended to encourage privateers. Certainly great application should be made to ruin the French picaroons; therefore all possible encouragement should be given to those that take any French vessels, both merchants and fighters. There may be a danger of turning this into a trade by the severity and bounty of punishments and rewards. If the vessels be taken and confiscated, trade by false concert can hardly be maintained, but how this will be managed without distinct commission to knaving, trusty, responsible, persons will be very doubtful. If the seamen who now constitute the complement of the royal ships be under "defence" not to be employed in any privateer, there may be safely allowance to be supplied from any other persons who may therein engage.

ROBERT HARLEY to SIR EDWARD HARLEY.

1691, October 24—Great efforts have been used on both sides to procure a Lord Chief Justice of the Common Pleas. The Lord Chief Baron was a candidate but he will have his pretentions satisfied with continuation of his salary as speaker of the House of Lords. The Attorney General has no other competitor than Levins, but it is thought the former will comply with the Duchess of Grafton's pretensions to the place of Treasurer of the Common Pleas and have the place. Then the Recorder and Attorney's places are to be filled, which it is hoped the Solicitor will obtain. I have with much pains composed the differences between Mr. Birch and Mr. Foley. I think both sides have reason to be contented. The enclosed is from Lady Harley who is ingreat want of money to carry on her law against Mr. Berenger. The agreement with Mr. Birch is to be a great secret.

The Same to the Same.

1691, October 27—This day the House met. The appearance was very thin and little judgment can be made how this session will be. The gentlemen generally come up with no other apprehension than to give all that is asked.

The Same to the Same.

1691, October 29—Sir William Hussey is dead of a fever at Adrianople. It is hoped the treaty with the Turks is too far advanced to receive much obstruction upon that score. The House is not full.

The Same to the Same.

1691, October 31—Concerning a proposal of marriage for his sister Martha from a Mr. Stredwick, a wholesale grocer in a good trade, said to be worth not above 1,000*l.* in land and 2,000*l.* in trade.

The Same to the Same.

1691, November 3—Giving a report of proceedings in Parliament.

[James Bonnell] to Robert Harley.

1691, November 3. Dublin—"It has pleased God to give us peace here and we ought to be thankfull for it on whatever terms it comes; 'tis in vain to find fault with the articles of Limerick, as I conceive; the enquiry must now be how to make the best of them and provide against the inconveniences of them, without enquiring whether these inconveniences hapened out of necessity or from design. Tis plain the Irish are in much better condition then we hoped they would be in the end of this war and by consequence the condition of the Prot[estant]s so much worse. It has been usual with the gentlemen of England hitherto to think that the state of Ireland did not concern them, and that it was policy to keep this country low. I hope they are now convinct that it concerns them many millions and may soon concern them as much more, if they are not careful now to prevent it. They cannot sink it into the sea, and therefore they ought to see how to prevent its being prejudicial to them, at least, if they cannot make it usefull which would be still the better policy. The prejudicialness of this kingdom to England has been from the height of the Irish, who have been a worming people and have found the blind side of the courtiers, and may do so again, especially having now so many advocates among the forreign embassadors at Court. Twill be according to the favour they find and the settlement that is now made that this kingdom will be secured from being hereafter troublesom, or will have left in it the seeds of new disturbances. Nothing can secure it against the Irish but increasing the number and the power of the English. Had the Irish now bin totally reduced and brought low by the loss of all their estates, this country would have been looked on by the English as a secure place and many would have flocked hither for advantages to be had, which would have greatly increased our numbers. But as it is, and if it be let go on this foot, we shall be so far from having new ones come to us, that few of the old ones who can get away, will stay; the consequence of which nearly touches the interest of England. And the only means to prevent this, *is to make this country a secure place for the English, taking things as they now are.* This is the question how to procure this" Without pretending to answer it, I will present my thoughts of things here. "Good part of the Irish have their estates

by the articles of Limerick, and some advantages even above Prot[estant]s. Others that submitted at the Boyne and have continued peaceable ever since, are outlawed and lose their estates. This is such a wondrous inequality that it can hardly be that even a settlement should be founded on it. If the Irish were so clamorous against the former Act of Settlement which took away their estates for their notorious rebellion in 1641, what will these men hereafter say for losing their estates now for adhering to K[ing] J[ames] while he was among them and submitting to K[ing] W[illiam] as soon as K[ing] J[ames] left them, when yet they see so many others enjoy their estates who stood out above a year longer." How will it look hereafter that Lord Gilmoy should flourish in his estate and sit in Parliament while Mr. Talbot of Malahide should go begging. These things seem to me not capable of a lasting settlement without being reduced to some nearer equality. "How then should all have their estates since some have. I doubt realy it must be so. If we can find anyway to arm ourselves against the Article men who have their estates, the same will do it against the others, though they have their estates also."

I cannot say whether I would wish for a Parliament here. "It is certain the courtiers of this kingdom would endeavour to prevent it; it would be too clamorous against them, and I believe your Hous also would be jealous of it, for it looks like this kingdom setting up for itself and having a different interest from England, though in truth ther's no such thing for our interest as that we should be preserved from the Irish, and I am sure that your interest is that they should not be in a capacity to rebel. Perhaps indeed the flourishing of this kingdom may interfere with the private interests of particular gentlemen with you, by lowering of rents, but I'm sure it's for the good of the community. There are two methods that seem to me better for the good of this kingdom than a Parliament here. The first is the uniting of this kingdom to England, as it was in Cromwell's time, by our sending over about thirty commoners and some representatives of the Lords Spiritual and Temporal to your Parliament. This alone would take this kingdom out of the hands of the Irish and would take away all jealousy of it from the English, since it would seem then but to be a part of themselves as much as Wales." One objection to this scheme is that "our members would be a dead weight in the Hous, since they would always be of one side." The answer is "that side would not be the Court side; but for the future, if this answer should not take off these or the like objections, the second expedient—which I come now to—insted of a Parliament here, will do it. And that is, that you should appoint a Committee always for Irish affairs, and we should send agents to that Committee. This I confess would be a great lowering of this kingdom, but I dont see but that it would sufficiently provide for the true interests of it and the support of the Prot[estant]s against the Irish, if the people of England would but make this their aim and end." If neither of these be done some propose that you should by a general Act make all the laws of England since Henry the Seventh's time in force here.

"One main thing to the good of this country will lye in the Chief Governor given us. It concerns both you and us that this be an honest man and not one intent on making an estate out of a pieled country."

I have heard the value of the "extra-article" estates computed with the private estate of the late King when Duke of York, at 30,000*l.* a year, worth at eight years purchase 240,000*l.* I understand some gentlemen of this kingdom, now with you are very much against your making laws for us, how much soever we may stand in need of it,

because they would not have it fall into a practice for the future. Most that I converse with, who wish heartily well to this kingdom and to England are of another mind. This country has cost you money and blood enough to give you a just pretence to take it into your own hands and to order us either to send members to your Houses or agents to your Committees, as you think fit. It has ruined us in this kingdom from time to time to have a Parliament of our own, for it has bred the jealousy of England towards us, and made us seem to have separate interests.

EDWARD HARLEY to his father, SIR EDWARD HARLEY.

[16]91, November 5. Oxford—I came safely here and called at Bourton. The children look well and are kept clean and handsome in clothes, and are taught to read and say their catechism.

ROBERT HARLEY to SIR EDWARD HARLEY.

[16]91, November 5—Tomorrow the motion for the supply must be considered in the House. On Saturday Mr. Russell is to give an account of his summer's expedition. Those that brought on that affair think to overturn the two great men by it. Recriminating has not often been successful. The Duke of Buckingham and Lord Bristol formerly, and the later attempt of the Earl of Torrington against the Secretary give no promising precedents to such proceedings. The stage coach to Worcester is taken for Monday for the servants.

The SAME to the SAME.

1691, November 7—This day Mr. Russell who promised to lay before the House the whole scheme of his proceedings by sea this summer, stood up and said he was ready to answer anyone who should accuse him. The House seems in a very strange temper, and which way the parties will determine is very difficult to say, but at present they are very much intermixed and jumbled together.

Brother Edward is just come safe to town.

EDWARD HARLEY to SIR EDWARD HARLEY.

[16]91, November 10—The favour and acceptance that the goodness of God has given my brother in the House of Commons is extraordinary and much taken notice of. It is generally reported that he is made auditor of Wales, but without ground. There seems no disposition in the House of Commons to meddle with the ministers of state. Whigs and Tories unite against the Court in endeavouring to be frugal by good management. I hope the travellers will have a good journey. My sister, I suppose, will be willing to take the housekeeping if it is mentioned at first. Aunt Bromfield, sister Harley and Mrs. Sarah Foley, went out of town yesterday.

ROBERT HARLEY to SIR EDWARD HARLEY.

1691, November 10—Yesterday I was put into the chair of the Committee for examining the estimates of the Fleet. Admiral Russell delivered in a narrative of the summer's expedition. Sir Ralph Delaval has come to Spithead. Mr. Harbord has started to-day for Belgrade.

The Same to the Same.

1691, November 14—This morning I reported the estimates for the navy, and after a long debate every one of our resolutions was agreed to. Every question was carried against the Court. There was but one division, about four ships to be new built, although thirty were ordered to be built last year, and the danger of the precedent of letting such things slip into the estimate carried it against the ships. Our condition is sad and distracted; nothing visibly appears to save us, or any probable rational humane grounds of consistence in any scheme proposed. The naming sixty-five thousand men has given great distaste and is probably repented of before this.

The Earl of Longford and others, Commissioners of Seizures in Ireland to the Commissioners for taking the public accounts, in York Buildings.

1691, November 14, Dublin—Sending the returns of the sub-commissioners for "seizing the forfeitures to their Majesties in the severall parts of this Kingdom within the conquest" and complaining of the ill-usage they had received in the execution of the commission. *Signed. Signet of the Earl of Longford.*

John Stone and others, Commissioners for stating the accounts of the army in Ireland to the Commissioners for taking the public accounts.

1691, November 16, Dublin—Complaining that Lord Coningsby had sent an estimate of arrears due to the army without their concurrence and which was imperfect. *Signed. Signet.*

[Robert Harley] to [Sir Edward Harley.]

1691, November 17—Yesterday's votes about Lord Preston's papers were carried on underhand by the white Marquis's [Carmarthen] friends; the design is to conciliate himself to the House of Commons and blast the black Marquis and others named. To-day was spent in hearing the accusations against the East India Company.

——— Feuquier to Robert Harley, in London.

1691, November 23 — Warning him of the untrustworthiness and dishonesty of the persons about him, and protesting his own devotion, and asking for payment of fifteen or twenty pieces due to him for services rendered to the King in Ireland. *French.*

[Robert Harley] to [Sir Edward Harley.]

1691, November 24—The affair of Sir Ralph Delaval is very much in the dark. There has been an omission as to fighting the French squadron or at least seeking them out, which he excuses by his want of orders or rather contrary orders.

[Edward Harley] to [Sir Edward Harley.]

[16]91, November 24—Given an account of proceedings taken against Sir Richard Buckley, Mr. Hartley and Mr. Yates on the ground that Mr. Hartley had issued more than eight hundred warrants in two months against alehouse keepers, and that Sir Richard Buckley kept an office in Lincoln's Inn to encourage persons to inform against swearing, drunkenness, and profanity.

[The Same] to [the Same.]

[16]91, November 28—Yesterday was received the afflicting account of my sister's illness. The bishops talk of a proclamation for the suppressing of debauchery, but it does not yet appear.

Robert Harley to Sir Edward Harley.

1691, November 28—Immediately on receipt of your letters I went to my Aunts Foley, Ernle, and Stephens. They could not tell of anything to be done at this great distance. My Aunt Stephens says the symptoms are much more favourable than this summer in her daughter's case. She found great benefit in frequent use of gargarisms and particularly oxymel. I hope Dr. Bagley will stay with her. I desire to express my sensibleness of your great and abundant tender care and affection always expressed above my deserts to myself, to my little ones and my dearest Heart who now lies under this sharp visitation. I am satisfied she will not want anything an earthly tender parent can manifest in care of her. I desire that my heart may be brought to resign her who has been the comfort of so many years of my life. It is an assault upon a most sensible part; like the pulling away of a limb. I do not write to her because I doubt that it would discompose her, but my earnest prayers are that God will carry her through this valley of the shadow of death. I should be very glad to come down if it were agreeable to my wife.

The Same to the Same.

1691, December 1—Rejoicing at the favourable progress of his wife's illness [small pox], the symptoms of which were considered very favourable by all friends in London. Also giving Parliamentary and foreign news.

[Edward Harley] to Sir Edward Harley.

1691, December 1—The hopes yours by yesterday's post gives of my sister's recovery is cause of all humble thankfulness. My brother is now very well and abroad.

The Same to the Same.

1691, December 3—Between one and two o'clock Ellis brought yours. The loss of my dear sister is a severe stroke upon the whole family but especially to my brother to whom it is as the cutting off a limb. Mr. Paul Foley has been with my brother this evening.

R. H[arley] to Sir Edward Harley.

1691, December 5—"The continual duty of a Christian is to be resigned up to the wil of our Heavenly Father, and it is a necessary part of our daily supplication that his wil may take place in earth as it is in heaven, and that we may be prepared for it, not only for the theory and discoursive part of it, but intirely to practise it when such afflicting strokes as this is laid upon us. I confess and must acknowledge the Lord afflicts less then our iniquities have deserved, and the yeares of comfort I enjoyed with that deare one were beyond anything of merit, only from fre grace. Yet this is a bitter cup. Let it not O my God be given in wrath, let not thy tender mercies fail for evermore. O lay not more on this wretch then thou will enable him to bear. Thine arrows stick fast in me and my hand presseth me sore; there is no soundness in my flesh because of thine anger, neither rest in my bones because of my sin. Lord al my desire is

before thee and my groning is not hid from thee. Wil the Lord cast off for ever and wil he be favorable no more? Hath God forgotten to be gracious? Is his mercy clean gon for ever more? Hath he in his anger shut up his tender mercies? But I wil remember the yeares of the right hand of the Most High. I wil meditate of all thy workes and talk of thy doings. The Lords way is in the sea, his path in the great waters. Thy footsteps are not known. Oh let me come into thy sanctuary then shal I understand these things; in this time of fear and troble I wil trust in thee, yea tho thou slayest me wil I trust in thee. Leave not my soul desolate, do not thou forsake me; in the midst of the fires I wil prayse thee. Just art thou in all thou hast done unto me. Blessed be the name of the Lord.

This, Sir, is a heart searching grief, a wound in the most sensible part, nay it is an amputation of oneself. The loss is felt in every part. When God would make the prophet sensible of the grief for the profanation of his sanctuary and its desecration and make him a signe thereof to the Jewes, then he took away the desire of his eyes with a stroke. Many lasting considerations occurs to embitter this dispensation and the dark side of the providence is very gloomy. The affliction is grievous. I humbly beg prayers that it may bring forth in my soul the quieting fruits of righteousness. I desire to look up into the hand that gives the stroke that only can heale and make up this irreparable loss, as to the world, with abundant graces of his spirit. November 29 at night gave a period to my deare mother's days on earth, and November 30 in the morning to my dearest heart. They were very lovely and pleasant in their lives, and in their deaths not much divided. I dare not, I would not wish her back again, for I doubt not her holy soul is in the fruition of the joy of her Lord, with whom she walked upon earth. Those heavenly discourses upon that subject she heard heer with so much pleasure and desired to have a transcript of, she now better understands and is in the enjoyment of that endless bliss. She is now beyond al fear of parting with my dear mother whom she loved so wel, and with our little Robin that is gon before. She is gone to the city of the living God, to an innumerable company of angels, to the general church of the firstborne, to God, the judge of all, and to the spirits of just men made perfect, and to Jesus the mediator of the new covenant, and to the blood of sprinkling, to which happy state and place may the same blood and mercies in our appointed time bring us.

Sir, your affection to me and that happy soul hath exceeded. Your prayers for your poor disconsolate son I know I enjoy. I beg only God will not forsake me but sanctifie his hand to me and humble me under it, and if it be his blessed wil to spare those little babes, if it be his wil, for I desire to resigne al I have, if he thinks fit to take away root and branch, I lay my mouth in the dust for it is his doing."

Postscript.—"I desire greif and sorrow may excuse this disjoynted letter."

P. Luis' to ——.

1691, December 6—A long letter upon the abuses in the administration of the navy.

[Robert Harley] to Sir Edward Harley.

1691, December 8—It is the infinite goodness of God that every letter does not bring sad tidings. I wait upon our merciful God to be gracious to the remainder of a poor family. If he will spare, the praise shall be his. This morning holy Mr. Baxter went to his everlasting rest.

I wrote in my last about mourning, and cannot add anything more. I will take care about rings.

[Edward Harley] to Sir Edward Harley.

[16]91, December 10—Great is the goodness of God in that he yet stays the infectious distemper from going further. My brother is well. This is the first day he goes abroad since Ellis came. Mr. Baxter went to his long desired rest upon Tuesday. He was opened, and a great stone was found in one kidney and an ulcer on the other; also some gravel in his bladder. He left me one of his executors and trustees. His funeral will be this day week.

Yesterday one Fuller, formerly page to the late Queen, made a large discovery in the House of Commons of a design to restore King James; that the King was betrayed in all offices, especially from the secretary's office, and even in his most secret councils. He accuses the late Archbishop of Canterbury, the Dukes of Northumberland, Newcastle, Beaufort; the Earl of Huntingdon, Scarsdale, Halifax, Godolphin, Preston, the Bishop of Ely, Oglethorp, Sir John Fenwick, and others, and offers to bring two persons who would declare much more and produce letters under some of their hands. The discovery did not produce the fervour in the House which might have been expected. The Marquis of Carmarthen is a manager of this plot, which cools many in the prosecution of it.

[The Same] to the Same.

[16]91, December 12—The discovery made by Fuller is under the management of the white Marquis. It is supposed chiefly to be directed by him against the black Marquis. This conspiracy has been long known at Court.

I suppose the resolution made this day will be agreeable to the country that no one should have more than 500*l.* a year in any place about the Government except Commissioners of the Great Seal and Judges.

[The Same] to [the Same.]

[16]91, December 19—On Thursday I atttended the funeral of Mr. Baxter. Never, as I was told by several that knew the City had ever been seen such vast numbers of people to attend any funeral. The streets and windows and balconies all crowded, from Merchant Taylors Hall to Christ Church where he was interred by his wife. Dr. Woodroffe was very desirous to have preached his funeral sermon, but Dr. Bates and Sir H. Ashurst would not consent. Sir H. Ashurst, Mr. French, Mr. Hunt, Mr. Bird and myself are his executors.

I have seen a letter written by Sir William Jennings which says the English fleet is commanded by such ignorant, cowardly rascals that they have never dared to fight the French where ever they met then. That Admiral Russell knew where the French fleet lay for twelve days but dared not engage them.

The Same to the Same.

[16]91, December 23—The affront offered to Lord Longueville at the playhouse occasioned a long debate in the House of Lords. The Earl of Stamford moved that playhouses might be totally suppressed as being illegal and tending to the increase of debauchery. The Earl of Manchester and others pressed it very much, which formed an order to suppress all acting, which is since taken off. It was hoped the King would have taken this occasion to have suppressed plays.

The great coolness which the Court shows in prosecuting the discoveries of conspiracies has produced a strange indifferency in Parliament. Sir Thomas Clarges and Sir C. Musgrave have got the character of Commonwealth men.

[The Same] to the Same.

[16]91, December 27—Mr. Baxter directs by his will that his money which is about 1,000*l.* should be laid out to purchase an annuity for years to be employed for pious uses.

The Bishops to the King.

1691—Petition for the vigorous execution of the law against profanity.

Newfoundland.

1691—"Accompt of the number of inhabitants, quantity of fish &c. made in the Newfoundland and for what places loaden *anno domini* 1691."

The number of boats was 275; of "planters" 261; of inhabitants men, women, and children, 1,789, of fish shipped, 106,250; of train made, 325½ tons. Ninety ships were laden, of which eighteen were bound for Cadiz, twenty-three for Bilbao, fourteen for Barbados. All the train was shipped to Bristol, Topsham, London, Poole, or Dartmouth.

E. H[arley] to Sir Edward Harley.

[16]91[-2], January 2—What was written in my last may be looked upon as very strange and weak. I am not without great concern lest it should be the occasion of trouble to you. I desire entirely to resign myself to the divine will. Though Mr. P. has often proposed to me what I formerly mentioned, yet it was not written with the least design for myself but for my cousin. I shall endeavour to promote it to the utmost, she being represented as a person truly pious.

Great endeavours are used to unhinge things in Scotland. The Marquis of Carmarthen is their avowed enemy. It has been proposed to disarm the Presbyterians and dissolve the Assembly as riotous.

[The Same] to the Same.

[16]91[-2], January 5—The enclosed came to-day by the Flanders post. My anxiety to know of my brother's welfare made me presume to open the letter. Mr. Trench is much concerned that a lewd woman from Smyrna has come to settle at Aleppo. He intends to get an order to the consul to remove her. The Turkey merchants are promised a convoy to go in March. They have settled a correspondent at Marseilles who forwards their letters to Aleppo, by which means the letters pass every two months.

John Stone and other, Commissioners of accounts in Ireland, to the Commissioners for public accounts in London.

1691[-2], January 8. Dublin—Concerning moneys due in respect of fifteen regiments ordered to be transported into Flanders, and the charges for the hospitals.

Edward Harley to his father, Sir Edward Harley.

[16]91[-2], January 9—It has been an exceeding grief to me that what I wrote has been the occasion of adding affliction to a parent

whom in sincerity I love above my own life. Had not a sense of duty forced me to mention it when I did, it would have lain in perpetual concealment. I expect no such thing as happiness from anything within the sphere of this state of mortality.

The favour and esteem my brother has in the House of Commons is very extraordinary. I hope God will keep his heart upright with him. Mr. Thomas Foley has given great offence by soliciting for the East India Company.

R. H[arley] to [Sir Edward Harley].

1691–2, January 14—Yesterday was a long debate upon the Lords additional clause about their own trials in cases of treason, which at last was carried to be amended and sent up to the Lords. I had very private information that the governors of Ireland will be removed, but whether one or three placed there is not determined. Complaints are very numerous of the miscarriages there. The King has made Lord Russell, Lord Lieutenant of Middlesex. The Earl of Bedford has it in custody, and having refused to be a duke himself the King has promised after his decease a dukedom and garter to his grandson.

The Same to [the Same].

1691–2, January 16—The Duke of Bolton's house was burned this week in the night, by negligence. Sir Evan Cameron, Lord of Lochiel, is expected in town tonight. Some further bargain is designed with the Highlanders.

E. H[arley] to Sir Edward Harley.

[16]91[–2], January 16—Yesterday Lord Wharton sent for me to dine with him and received me with great expressions of kindness and enquired when you would be in town. After dinner my Lady told me she now grew infirm, and that she had nothing to leave her grand daughter Mrs. P[opham]. She was well assured that her father would marry as soon as she was dead, and she therefore hoped that her mother's relations would endeavour to secure a portion for her, and that Mr. Popham should be prevailed upon to sell Bourton. Mrs. Popham is much grown. She is like to be a very beautiful person.

The informers against vice are like to fall under great hardships. Some lewd villains having discovered where they meet to pray and sing psalms twice a week, have promised to direct the press masters where to find them that so they may be carried off to sea. By these means some of them were carried away last year and never heard of. The great increase of these good societies and their exemplary piety gave great hopes that the glory would not depart from these sinful lands. My brother has been much indisposed these two or three days. He has had several fainting fits, which I suppose proceed from the stomach.

R. H[arley] to [Sir Edward Harley].

1691–2, January 19—This is the last week of our power by the old act. I am in the chair, and thereby all my time more than usually taken up. The new act passed this day *nem. con.* A poll was this day proceeded upon, to be paid quarterly.

On the 15th the Assembly of Scotland were to sit. It is expected to hear how they take the King's letter to restore some of the ousted clergy.

E. H[ARLEY] to SIR EDWARD HARLEY.

[16]91[-2], January 20—I have discovered that the author of Colonel Ludlow's letter to Sir Edward Seymour intends to publish another wherein such satisfaction shall be made to the injured honour of Lord Conway as shall be directed.

The poor French Protestants are in great distress and have petitioned Parliaments, but they are little regarded as the great miscarriages of many of them have greatly prevented several charitable designs towards them. Mr. Paul Foley and his lady are full of expressions of kindness to my brother and his family.

[The SAME] to the SAME.

[16]91[-2], January 23—The cause of the Earl of Marlborough's removal is not known. It is said that great intrigues are discovered at the Cockpit, and letters intercepted from the Prince and Princess of Denmark.

[ROBERT HARLEY] to [SIR EDWARD HARLEY].

1691-2, January 26—"Tho' rest is the thing we al pretend to seek after, we wil search for it everywhere, but the only place where it is to be found. Vanity and vexation was the qintessence the greatest chymist could ever extract out of the largest and most unbounded enjoyment of the creature."

King William says the Earl of Marlborough has used him so that were he not a prince he must ask satisfaction with his sword. The words alleged are "had not virtue enough to value high ends, a corage to punnish his enemies." At the opening of the Assembly in Scotland a sermon was preached against moderation terming it lukewarmness. The King was sometime in the House of Lords this day. The examination of the Duke of Norfolk's proofs against the Duchess were so obscene that he stayed but little.

[The SAME] to [the SAME].

1691-2, January 28—A report says that great changes are meditated at Court when Parliament rises.

E. H[ARLEY] to his father, SIR EDWARD HARLEY.

[16]91[-2], January 30—We have often the company here of Dr. Woodroffe. He is endeavouring to revive an old design of bringing over young Greek youths to be educated in the knowledge of the Scriptures. If it take effect it may be of great use.

This day many strange and extravagant things have been vented from the pulpits.

It is said the whole frame of the Court will be altered, but I fear the management will be the same. The loss of the Treason bill is imputed to the King's coming to the House of Lords the day it was to pass that House, which occasions much reproach.

[The SAME] to the SAME.

[16]91[-2], February 9—I perceive by Mr. Taylor that Lady Wharton will not be concerned for the four children, that which was attempted not succeeding. She is very anxious that Bourton should be sold to

raise of portion for Mrs. Anne. He told me that Mr. Popham kept correspondence with some one at Bourton who wrote often about the children.

[Robert Harley] to [Sir Edward Harley].

1691-2, February 11—This day the Welsh Judges sent to me know whether I would have the sessions at Knighton or Presteign.

Sir Thomas Clarges to [Robert Harley.]

1691[-2], February 12—I am sorry my lameness will not let me attend at the House. As to precedents I cannot readily by my memory inform you thereof but one I do remember in Hackwell where it is said, "a bill that is rejected cannot be offered the same session; but if it be altered in any material point in the body and the title, it may be admitted."

Edward Harley to his father, Sir Edward Harley.

[16]91[-2], February 13—The executors of Mr. Baxter have ordered ten thousand copies of *The Call to the Unconverted* to be printed and bound with the Assembly's catechism. It is a great mercy that the malice of my brother's enemies has not extended beyond lying stories and falsehoods. They have reported, without any pretence of truth, that the King has ordered a hearing about my brother's patent.

E. Cholmeley to her cousin, Abigail Harley, at Brampton.

[16]91-2, February 13. Chavenage — Lord Marlborough's crimes, it seems, are kept so secret that no one owns to guess at them. I wish all other guilty persons might be so discharged and as good ones placed in their stead. I believe the news letters hint that Lord Sidney will be Lord Lieutenant of Ireland.

[Robert Harley] to [Sir Edward Harley.]

1691-2, February 13—The delivery of Neddy from the fall and the whole family from fire requires to be most thankfully acknowledged.

I asked you before to appoint whom you thought fit to attend the Sheriff. I have since spoken with Serjeant Pawlet. He says what they expect is lodging, oats, hay, and small beer. I doubt it will not be convenient to have them remove from Presteign. There are supposed to have passed some sharp letters to P[rincess] A[nne] for the removal of Lady M[arlborough], which has not yet been complied with.

The Same to the Same.

1691-2, February 16—The quarrel is great between the Cockpit and Kensington. The Princess withdraws to Sion House.

[Edward Harley] to Sir Edward Harley.

[16]91[-2], February 16—It is said the strange ill-humour of the Princess to the King and Queen has greatly alarmed the King, and may force him to a speedy change of his measures. It is said a correspondence between the Cockpit and Saint Germains is discovered.

[Robert Harley] to [Sir Edward Harley.]

1691-2, February 18—The Poll Bill was read a third time and carried up to the Lords today. It is supposed the bill may pass with the clause without further dispute and that they will let it slip *sub silentio*, rather than by contesting it to be forced to quit it at last.

The feud is still high between the sisters, and the younger removes to Sion.

[The Same] to [the Same.]

1691-2, February 20—I was yesterday distempered by a cold, which occasioned me "to sweat this morning and since have been let blood this afternoon." I hope when the weather is a little more favourable and the floods abate, you will have a safe passage to London.

[The Same] to [the Same.]

1691-2, February 23rd—I expect tomorrow to have your directions about the coach meeting you.

Lady Tyrconnell and the Duke of Richmond have come over from France.

[The Same] to [the Same.]

1691-2, February 25—The Commissioners of Accounts are continued till April 25, 1693 by the clause in the Poll Act. Cousin Pelham was very positive to have her bill obstructed. Her petition was presented, and I spoke to the King in the Prince's lodgings, but it passed.

[Robert Harley] to [Sir Edward Harley.]

1691-2, February 27—I trust you will have a comfortable and safe journey. The King told Lord Colchester yesterday he intended to go Friday next. A most prodigious train of artillery is shipping. Some pieces are five thousand weight. Two clergymen called Wilcox and Brest are committed to Newgate for high treason. Sir John Lowther and Mr. Pelham quit the Treasury, the first voluntarily.

The Same to the Same, at the Angel Inn in Oxford.

1691-2, March 1—On Sunday last the Earl of Essex was married to the Earl of Portland's daughter, and Sir Henry Capel has a warrant to be Baron of Tewkesbury. It is rumoured that Sir John Lowther will be an Earl. This day Lord Hyde, son of the Earl of Rochester is to be married to Sir William Leveson Gower's daughter. It is feared that our West India plantations are in great danger from the French, and that Antigua is now in their possession.

Edward Harley to his father, Sir Edward Harley, Member of Parliament, in King Street, London.

[16]92, March 31—Giving a report of the sessions and other local news. *Signet.*

Brocas de Hondesplens to ———

1692, April 5—Concerning the French Protestants, and lamenting the existence amongst them of certain rogues whom the Committee have no authority of their own to correct.

Lord Sidney and Sir Rowland Gwynne.

1692, April 7—"A relation of what passed between Lord Sydney and Sir Rowland Gwynne before the Privy Councell," the Queen being present, concerning the accusations brought by Sir Rowland Gwynne against Lord Sidney of selling offices in Ireland, and receiving bribes for them.

Thomas Foley to his brother[-in-law], Robert Harley, in London.

1692, April 18–28. Utrecht—Mr. Leigh is settled in a French house. I see him every day. He came a little too late for this half year's lectures which were almost half done, but he frequents the Log[ic lectures], the former part of which Mr. Bragge explained to him. He frequents also "the remainders of Grœvius's college on Lucius Florus for the understanding of Roman antiquities and history, and is bettering himself in Latin from the mouth of elegant Grœvius."

The King has been expected from Loo sometime since. I suppose he stays there on a punctilio of honour that the Elector Palatine may come and wait upon him where he was when the Elector came into this province. I hear our regiments in Flanders are ill-paid. I suppose much of the money goes to fee German Princes. *Torn. Seal of arms.*

Sir Christopher Musgrave to Robert Harley.

[16]92, April 18—"Your prorogation is short but surely will be continued till winter, for the house being unrooft and the alterations designed will not be quickly finished. I concur in your wish that the new house may be filled with wisdom and integrity, methinks all should be new. Old furniture disparages a new building. The Queen Dowager being denied leave to go to Callis is surprising, and should she return to London, the contrivance is extraordinary. I did not think the Lords had power to remove an indictment for murther. It well merits the consideration of a House of Commons. The two marchants were ingeniously trepanned from Torbay. I suppose none will be so curious as to goe to see the late Queen delivered. Apprehending a design upon Jersey and Guernsey, no doubt it will be secured against all attempts, and not trust to the poets security; if that were a certaine one their would be a speedy end of the war. Sir Rowland Gwin hath a curious badg fixt upon his back which will shine over the world. I wish either of the persons you nominated were Governor of Carlisle."

The Same to the Same.

[16]92, May 12—"I confess the meeting is surprising, for if an invasion should happen, doubtless being in your owne countrys will be absolutely necessary, and if their be no dissent, then what use your meeting may be of I cannot comprehend, but conclud the session must be very short. Theirfor so long a journey will be dispensed with. What if the *Habeas Corpus* act be suspended that hath been alwaies laboured upon such accidents. It is a great security to the peoples liberties.

I perceive severall are confined, and warrants against others. If wee can secure ourselves against a forrainer, I fear not any endeavours at home. They will prove inconsiderable; only wound themselves."

The Same to the Same.

1692, May 23—It was very pleasing in the country that the apprehensions of an invasion were over. The public letters say the French fleet were gone home. It seems the French gazette gives an account of the late King's declaration of pardon. According to the report, it looks like the Irish Act of Attainder, which pardoned none.

Thomas Lloyd to Major Robert Harley, in King Street, London.

1692, May 27. Brampton—Last night we rejoiced here with bonfires and guns for the good news Sir Edward sent us of the defeat of the French fleet. I am heartily glad to hear of my governor's recovery, and that we shall have him here in a little while. By the commands of Madam Martha I have taken up my quarters at Brampton, which I find to be the best that ever I met with. Yesterday I waited upon my little master Neddy, at Kinsham, who was in his fit. It takes him earlier and leaves it sooner, so that I hope in a little time it will quite leave him.

Madam Littleton and Madam Foley want your and the Recorder's good company at bowls here.

Sir C. Musgrave to Robert Harley.

1692, June 2—Last week produced nothing but miracles, and such a victory, considering the greatness of ships, no age can parallel. It seems the French engaged not upon so great irregularity at first as was apprehended from the public accounts. Besides the victory, the bravery of the English mariners is great joy to the kingdom and will discourage our enemies.

The Same to the Same.

1692, June 11—I wonder there is not a thanksgiving day appointed for the victory over the French. It was very unfortunate that the Spanish fears secured the Toulon squadron from ruin. A little time will discover whether we shall make a descent.

If no indictments be exhibited on so great a plot as our common letters have hinted it will be strange. I know not whether you have had any summer. These parts are not sensible of it.

The Same to the Same.

1692, June 16—It seems many in the proclamation surrender themselves, and are bribed for so doing. Obedience is better than sacrifice. The two great wits make merry with each other and try where jests are the sharpest. They know each other very well.

The Same to the Same.

1692, June 25—It is very possible that a second victory may be judged a proper reason for a session. Let people's zeal be never so hot, which may dispose them to greater frankness, it is not to be had.

Robert Harley to Sir Edward Harley, at Brampton.

1692, July 9—I hope you have arrived safely at Brampton. King Street appeared but a lonesome place.

The Same to the Same.

1692, July 12—Giving foreign intelligence.

The Same to the Same.

1692, July 16—There is a report that the French have made a discovery of a design against their government, and that many suspected persons are put to the rack. My aunt and sister arrived yesterday safely. I find my aunt has very mean thoughts of Mrs. Sparkes. She was full of it, and the first minute told me she knew her family.

[The Same] to [the Same.]

1692, July 19—My aunt has not mentioned anything since of Mrs. Sparkes, but I will give her occasion to speak her mind.

The forces will be all embarked by the end of the week.

The Same to the Same.

1692, July 23—The officers of our fleet after reviewing the posture of the French at St. Malo resolved that the burning of the ships was not practicable, for they have drawn all but seven into the river at Dinant, and have made platforms with great guns upon all the rocks of the Rance, and have 25,000 men encamped near the town.

There is great robbing on the roads. Four coaches were robbed this week on the Oxford Road. My two cousins Stephens were in the Oxford coach when Lord Brereton's brother gave abusive language to Lord "Stranaver." They immediately fought, and Mr. Brereton is much wounded.

The Bishop of London contests the presentation of St. James's against the Queen. Dr. Birch is set up by the former, and Dr. Wake by the Queen.

News Letter.

1692, July 25. The camp at Sembeque—On Friday last we passed the River Senne to encamp in this place, the same day the French army decamped from Soignes and marched to Enghien.

His Majesty taking a resolution to attack the enemy there, the army began to march very early yesterday morning, the heavy baggage being ordered to repass the Senne at Halle and took up some hours to march through so many defiles when the ways were to be made. At the same time the enemy was encamped on a rising ground with their left toward Enghien and a wood lying before them encompassed with a thick hedge, so that there was no coming at them but by the sides of that wood, and the way lay through several hedges and ditches which the French had possessed themselves of.

Whilst the army was advancing there was firing on both sides with cannon which lasted above four hours. Between one and two o'clock the fight began, on our left being with ten battalions of foot whereof four were English and the rest Dutch and Danes commanded by the Duke of Wirtemburg who fell upon the enemy with so much vigour that they beat them from hedge to hedge and drove them beyond some of their cannon which we were possessed of for some time. But the enemy coming down upon our men in greater numbers, and the foot that was to support them not being yet advanced, we could not maintain that

post. The fight lasted with great heat for three hours and and a considerable number were killed on both sides, not less of the French than of ours.

There being so many difficulties to get to the enemy by the situation of their camp, it was thought advisable to leave off their enterprize, and about six o'clock orders were given for returning to our camp, which was done in great order, and though the French made a show of falling on our rear yet they never attempted it. We left behind only two pieces of cannon, and some ammunition waggons breaking on the way, we set fire to two or three of them and blew up the powder that was in them.

It is just now said that the Duke of Maine is killed and Boufflers wounded, with several other of the greatest quality in the French army.

Tomorrow we forage for two days.

Robert Harley to Sir Edward Harley.

1692, July 26—My sister Sarah's letter acquainted me with your health, and also that the children had had issues made. My uncle has gone down, and he desired me to come with him but I considered how many mouths would be open in the winter if any umbrage were given for an accusation of neglect. We have now three Commissioners absent, but I hope they will consider a younger brother, and that my turn may come.

Mr. London, the King's chief gardener, is gone down to Stoke; if it were worth so much money he would go over to Brampton and see the situation, and could make a draught of what he thought the place capable of. Nothing suggests this to me but the opportunity, and I do not think it is worth five or six guineas.

News Letter.

1692, July 29. Whitehall—Captain St. Paul, aide-de-camp to the Duke of Wurtemburg, arrived at Margate last night and came to Whitehall this evening at six of the clock. He posted from Ghent 4th of August, new style, and reports that the King's camp is at Dighens. The Duke of Luxemburg is at Parke which had been lately the King's head-quarter; he sent for contribution to Lovaine, which was denied, for the king had sent four fresh battalions thither to strengthen the place. He saw a printed paper at Lisle, wherein it was owned that the French had lost 17,000 men in the late action. At Ghent he was informed that Count Tilly and Lieutenant-General Tettau had fallen upon some of the heavy cannon of the French and taken them and destroyed some of their baggage, and that the son of the Duke of Luxemburg and Major-General in the French Army had been taken and sent back by the King to him. That four Hanover regiments behaved themselves very ill and let the French into the line. That the King had a battery of thirty pieces of cannon which played several hours upon the French and killed many of their men. That a great body of Swiss to the number of 10,000 broke through our two lines and being surrounded by our men were almost cut off. That after the French got through a village in our quarters and had forced our foot from their entrenchments, a body of English made themselves a rampart of dead bodies and fought behind them till they were all cut off, refusing to take quarter.

He saw a letter from a Spanish Major-General which mentioned that the Dukes of Ormond and St. Albans and the Lord George Hamilton and Colonel Stanley were killed. He said we lost but seven pieces of cannon in the fight.

The Duke of Wirtemburg was on the 3rd of August, new style, at Alost, and that His Majesty had writ to him not to harass his men by too long marches to come to him, but to stay where that letter should meet him till further order; his affairs being in a better condition than at first he thought them.

That the Duke had with him four millions of florins in contributions and security for more.

Mr. Blathwait went away to Breda as soon as the fight began.

[Robert Harley] to Sir Edward Harley.

1692, July 30—Giving foreign intelligence.

Sir Christopher Musgrave to Robert Harley.

[16]92, August 1—"Could it be effected that fisty cuffs were to determine our battailes, the author of the project would deserve to have his statue erected, for it would save millions to the nation, and the effusion of Christian blood. The dispute betwixt the English soldier and Brandenburgh is very observable. It seems our men are all shipped, and must now expect the happy issue from their descent. The year is much spent and the Turkish army but preparing to take the field, that to my poor thoughts no considerable thing can be performed by them. The last week Kit was commanded to take the remaine of stores at Carlisle Castle, and commanding the gunners to attend him at the castle at six in the morning, one of them came after eight, asking him the reason why he did not observe the hour appointed, said he had other business, which provoked the young man to exercise his cane upon him and broke his head. This gunner happens to be an alderman of the city. To express his resentment of this discipline, he prevails with the mayor who is his father to summons the aldermen to meet by candlelight in the evening in the hall, there were not above five aldermen at the meeting, the whole number consists of twelve; and there they disfranchised Mr. Christopher for cudgling an alderman out of the corporation, for the castle is not within their liberties. This is a very snmmary way of proceeding, to take away his birthright—for so his freedom is—and freehold, without summoning or hearing the party. And must offer it to your consideration whether the taking away of a freehold to which several immunities appertaine, is not a high violation of the Privilege of Parliament. I am sure things of a far inferior nature have been judged a breach of privilege. Be pleased to consider of it and advise with your friends, for the affront is to great to sit down quietly with. I know there is a remedy at law, but I conceive the honour of the House is concerned in it, and they will do right to themselves and the members. If a much better man than an alderman make himselve a gunner or soldier, he must be subject to his superior officer and to bear punishment for neglect of duty. It is probable some may endeavour to put false colours upon this matter, and so to make Kit a criminal."

Robert Harley to Sir Edward Harley.

1692, August 2—This day several of the Cabinet Council went to our fleet which is come to Spithead in order to adjust some dispute or to know

the reasons of their not proceeding in the designed expedition. It is said their instructions were to attempt St. Malo, Brest, or Rochefort. What these Lords will do I know not, but no doubt the two factions in the fleet will not fail to accuse each other.

FRANCIS GWYN to ROBERT HARLEY, at the Inner Temple.

1622, August 6. Ford Abbey—"Though the scene of our fleet is nearer us than it is to you, yet all the action and news must rebound from London before we can know anything of it that is to be depended upon. I confesse I long to hear the negotiation of soe many great embassadors—for I believe they will prove—this being noe examining age. The General is very hot headed, as the ministers of Bradenburge can tell you of old, and the Admiral is very stiff not to say proud; soe that there is need enough I believe of mediators; as much as if the Grand Monarck and ours were concerned."

SIR C. MUSGRAVE to ROBERT HARLEY.

1692, August 6—The return of our transport ships, after joining our fleet is wonderful, and makes countrymen consider what a charge this hath been and no advantage by it. Surely the Lords that are gone to the fleet will enquire what hath occasioned not proceeding on their voyage. Not obeying instructions is very dangerous and the authors of it will questionless be severely treated. A little time will unriddle it.

ROBERT HARLEY to SIR E. HARLEY.

1692, August 9—A sloop from Jamaica brings a sad account thence. An earthquake had happened there which destroyed Port Royal. Two thousand persons and a man-of-war are lost.

[The SAME] to the SAME.

1692, August 9—It is excessive cold, and we had till yesterday constant rain for three days. Mr. Holles, the Earl of Clare's brother had an apoplectic fit in St. Clement's Church on Sunday.

SIR C. MUSGRAVE to ROBERT HARLEY.

[1692], August 11—I am much obliged for your concern about the Justices. I could not imagine such an affront would have been offered. If their service had not been designed I should never have requested to have had them out. The restoring them must make me very contemptible and must make me decline public business, which I shall do, retirement being most desirable and suitable to my years. I perceive no ships are made in the severall commissions, which plainly evidences no intention of changing the channel. It is difficult contending with the violent current. Time will show the effect of these methods. Great endeavours have been used about two months to keep me out of Parliament. I shall not give them much trouble in that matter.

[ROBERT HARLEY] to [SIR E. HARLEY.]

[16]92, August 13—Yesterday Lord Sidney with a great train began his journey to Ireland. "He was complemented out of town by most of the great persons about the Court." Mr. Molesworth, agent from our Court to Denmark arrived last night at Harwich.

ARTHUR LANE to ROBERT HARLEY, in Paper Buildings, the lowermost staircase next the river, up three pair of stairs.

1692, August 13. Blackfriars—Informing him that he found it impossible to keep on the free school at Leominster any longer without conformity, the Tory party there being so strong, rude, resolute, and irreconciliable to Nonconformists.

SIR C. MUSGRAVE to ROBERT HARLEY.

[1692], August 15—Your letters give fresh instances of your great friendship to the family; preventing the first impression is a great kindness, and I have great reason to be assured that your early care hath had its effect. To my poor apprehension it is a great violation of privilege, and hope it will be so accounted, but those so much favoured as myself are apt to favour their own wishes which makes me an improper judge. The most knowing lawyers in this ignorant country agree the act illegal and cannot be justified, but I had much rather have relief from the House of Commons. After a sharp letter I received a copy of the act from the town clerk. Both Kit and myself entirely rest upon your assistance in this affair.

ROBERT HARLEY to SIR EDWARD HARLEY.

1692, August 16—Tomorrow the Prince and Princess of Denmark begin their journey to Bath. Mr. Holles only brother to the Earl of Clare, died this morning suddenly of an "impostume." He was well last night, but said the news letters had made him out to be dead. He was found dead in his bed, his nose and mouth full of blood. Lord Roos, son to the Earl of Rutland is to be married to Lord Russell's daughter, and Sir John Leveson Gower to Lord Rutland's daughter.

The SAME to the SAME.

[16]92, August 20—Yesterday Mr. Withers came express with orders from the King in Flanders for the sailing of our transport ships. It is said our men are to join others in Flanders.

[The SAME] to the SAME.

Same date—I hope to get leave to come down. The Parliament meets on Monday and then I shall be able to judge.

Colonel Cornewall and his little son are at Moccas. Mr. Vaughan of Trawscoid is married to Wilmot, Lord Rochester's youngest daughter, and Lord Newburgh to Lord Brudenel's daughter.

The blame of the miscarriage of the late action in Flanders is now charged to Count Solms.

B. WOODROFFE to ROBERT HARLEY, at the Inner Temple, London.

1692, August 21—On the 15th I was admitted by the Vicechancellor to Gloucester Hall, which I find a very capacious place, capable of receiving a hundred and fifty or thereabouts, and I find I am like to have some company there besides our few Greeks, indeed the statutes require that we shut not our gates against any. I hope by Michaelmas to have a great part of the place in readiness. I have already surveyed

every spot and provided some materials and set men at work. Every one here seems to encourage. I would be glad if you could enquire when the Turkey Company meet, for it will be necessary that I should wait upon them as soon as may be. I hope you have prepared Lord Paget, and if he had not already pitched upon his chaplain, it would be convenient that a person should attend him who would be fit to promote our affair in the East.

ROBERT HARLEY to SIR EDWARD HARLEY.

1692, August 23—Yesterday Parliament was prorogued till September 26th. On Saturday our transports sailed with a fair wind and I suppose are landed at Ostend by this time. Our great ships are still at St. Helens. A duel has been fought at Tunbridge between Mr. Cary, son of Sir Nicholas, and Mr. Serny. The latter is said to be dead.

[The SAME] to the SAME.

[16]92, August 27—I intend to come out on the Worcester coach on Friday, therefore I beg that horses may meet me at Worcester on Saturday evening, with holsters for myself and John Child. I intend to send Child to see Mr. Popham that I may know how his matters stand.

SIR C. MUSGRAVE to ROBERT HARLEY.

1692, August 28—To my mind the order made by the people at Carlisle makes a good ground for bringing it in to Parliament, but that must be left to the consideration of friends myself being unfit to judge in the matter.

SIR THOMAS CLARGES to ROBERT HARLEY, in London.

1692, August 28—I have had sad news of the sickness of my son's two younger children of the small pox at Kensington, which troubles me much, having but one girl more in all our stock, which is a passage I should not mention but to you who are a father of children and therefore sensible of such misfortunes. I think the succession of posterity to be one of the greatest blessings and felicities of this life.

ROBERT HARLEY to SIR EDWARD HARLEY.

1692, August 30—Twenty-six French men-of-war are in "the chopps of the channel." We hope our fleet will meet with them.

[The SAME] to the SAME.

Same date—Mr. Boscawen with great kindness intends to employ my brother Nathaniel in sale of his tin. Mr. Trench greatly commends my brother to other merchants.

[The SAME] to the SAME.

1692, September 1—I hope to begin my journey tomorrow. Though the Lord has thought fit to fill my cup with wormwood I humbly wait upon him and beg that we may have a meeting without further bitterness.

Sir Thomas Clarges to Robert Harley, at Brampton.

1692, September (August) 6—Upon some letter sent to the Duke of Luxemburg about English prisoners taken in the late action, he sent a churlish answer. That when those who were in prison in London for treason should be released, those with him should be freed; but I suppose by this time he is better disposed for we have in the King's hands the Prince of Enrichmont, eldest son of the Duke of Sully, and other French prisoners of good note.

It is said that the Duke of Leinster is fortifying Furnes and Dunkirk, and that there is a design to attack the fort of Knock, which cuts off at present the communication between Dunkirk and Ypres, and that great preparations are being made to bombard Dunkirk and "corrupt" the harbour.

The writs are out for a Parliament in Ireland to assemble on the 5th of October. And now I have informed you of all occurrences come to my knowledge, which I exhibit to you as Mr. Rushworth does his *Collections* to the world, without observation or reflection.

George Follett to Robert Harley, at Brampton.

1692, September 6. York Buildings—The Gazette has in it all that came from the Secretary at War to your Board. I was furnished with the other prints by my masters, your brethen, who with submission did not very well in committing the great affection and esteem they have for you to the expression of a secretary, who minded more the pleasure he took in their kind mentions of your Honour than in the doing right to you and them by making just declaration of their particular commands.

The Same to the Same.

1692, September 8. London—Colonel Seymour who is otherwise a wonderful good-natured gentleman, in some heat of drink thought himself obliged to demand satisfaction of Sir Charles d'Haro, who told him that if he continued in the same mind till next day it should not be refused him. Next morning Colonel Seymour begged his pardon as being his superior officer but prayed the favour of his promise. Which when Sir Charles could not prevail with him to decline, he allowed him to receive a wound and after that his sword at his hands, with other expressions of friendship.

Sir Matthew Andrews and I took Mr. Foley's kind invitation and a good dinner in Essex Street today. At half past two, when we had almost dined, the house gave three or four rolls not unlike the motion of a ball making mustard, and such as might cause the water to rise better than an inch in glasses on the table. We apprehended instantly an earthquake and got down into the street, into which the houses everywhere had emptied themselves. I do not hear of either glass or tile that has been injured by it.

Yesterday a man walked under water from Whitehall to Somerset House and had gone to the Temple but for the extreme cold, having gone sometime before from Barn Elms to Putney.

Sir Thomas Clarges to Robert Harley.

1692, September 8—The City of London paid in yesterday 30,000*l.* out of the 200,000*l.* to be borrowed there. This day there was an earthquake in many parts of London and the suburbs. It was much

about the Old Exchange and the Temples. It was of very little duration in any place, but not at the same time in all places. I am told there was the like in the reign of King Charles the First about two years before the civil wars and also in Buckinghamshire about half a year before the death of King Charles the Second. I am not superstitious but I cannot but observe that they have in some places been deemed ominous. *Signet.*

T. Foley to his cousin, Robert Harley.

1692, September 8. Essex Street—The earthquake threw down a stack of chimneys at Christ Church Hospital. It was a great calm both before and since, but much rain. There was nothing of it at Greenwich though it was very much at Wapping.

Sir Thomas Clarges to Robert Harley.

1692, September 10—Giving details of the Flemish campaign particularly with reference to the Duke of Leinster, and Dunkirk.

The Same to the Same.

1692, September 13—It is believed there will be no attempt upon Dunkirk. On Thursday the Earl of Montagu was married to the Duchess of Albemarle.

The Same to the Same.

1692, September 17—Though the public suffers by your absence, I cannot in good manner press you to leave the good company you have at Brampton, made so by the mutual consolation given and received there.

George Follett to Robert Harley.

1692, September 17. York Buildings—Two proclamations were this day published, one for the better discovery of seditious libellers, the other for discovering and apprehending highwaymen and robbers. Though they pass without much noise each seems important, especially if the latter be occasioned by decay of farmers. It is said that in the north they not only rob in great troops, but burn and waste as having lost all memory of goodness.

Francis Gwyn to Robert Harley.

1692, September 19, Ford Abbey—I suppose you have lately heard from Sir Christopher [Musgrave] concerning the quarrel between his son and the city of Carlisle, for which I shall be very glad to humble the town, and so say many of our western members.

Sir Thomas Clarges to Robert Harley.

1692, September 20—I saw yesterday a letter from Captain Gay wherein he related the story of the grenadier to which I referred in my last. "He writes, the man's name is Halsy and that being a centinel at Colonel Staples his tent, he saw in the night a man as he thought—mounted on a dapled grey horse, in a short black periwigg and a grey

camlot coat, and that he bid him stand and required to know his name and business, and he answered with a loud shrill voice, 'the King's life is in danger' and repeated the words twice or thrice. And he asked by whom and immediately he saw the appearance of a short man on foot in a blew camlott coat with a black periwigg and a silver hilted sword and a hatt with a silver lace about it; and the first man sayd 'this is he that will attempt it' and then they both vanished. And the next day the soldier saw a man ride in company with the King attired and in resemblance to that man, and would have seized him but he rode away so fast, he could not doe it. And the next time he had occasion to stand centinel at the aforesayd tent, the first vision appear'd to him on foot and struck him a blow on the back which was three dayes very painfull to him, and he reproach'd him for not being more carefull of the King. To whom he answered that he saw the man and would take the first opportunity to seize him. But the spirit replyed 'It is now to late for he was yesterday kil'd goeing to the French camp.' And on enquiry it was found that such a person was slane by a centinel, goeing too precipitately into the French camp. The captaine ends this relation with saying 'I know not what you will think of this affaire at London, but Halsy is a sober, intelligent fellow.'"

The Same to the Same.

1692, September 22—There is a rumour that the King of France has prevailed with King James to part with all his Protestant servants, and that the Chanceller Herbert is at Rouen, retired there on that account. It was said that the youngest daughter of the Duke of Newcastle was to be married with a portion of 25,000*l.* to the Earl of Portland, and that the Earl of Clare should be Duke of Clarence, but that report now cools, and it is discovered that she is to be married to Mr. Holles, son to Lord Holles, who is to be heir to the Earl of Clare, if he have no children. Parliament is this day prorogued to the 4th of November.

T. Foley to his cousin, Robert Harley.

1692, September 24—I enclose the proclamation for the sitting of Parliament. It is said very publicly in coffee houses that it is put off so long that nothing may be done but give money. There is a petition going in the City to complain to the Queen of the mal-administration of naval affairs. Since their accession four millions have been lost or taken by the French. My cousin Ned Foley is in a likely way to recover, but he has had the small pox very fully. My wife and cousin are your humble servants.

George Follett to Robert Harley.

1692, September 24. York Buildings—Amongst the effects of the late earthquake one was something comical. You remember the large new store house at the Tower and there above stairs all the heroes and their horses are set forth in armour. Suffering such a shock it was great prowess in them to stand their ground; but the mortals thereabouts, conceiving by the clashing of their armour that they were upon the march gave instances of the two extremes of motion. From Dublin they say all the Council's time is taken up in preparing bills for Parliament, and amongst the rest is one for granting their Majesties an aid of 120,000*l.* to be paid in two years. One third part is to be laid by way

of additional excise on beer and ale, and the other two parts upon corn, and rents of houses in towns corporate and markets. The Bishop of Killaloe is dead, and God has raised up the offscouring of the people to succeed him.

Sir Thomas Clarges to [Robert Harley].

1692, September 27—It is reported by the ships arrived from Jamaica, that the earthquake was so violent there as to overturn almost all the houses in the island.

The Same to the Same.

1692, September 27—I hear there has been a duel in France among the Scots who attend King James, three of a side, and that my Lord Melfort has been killed by the Duke of Gordon, who is imprisoned in the Bastile. There is news of a ship of Jamaica that sailed into the Red Sea and took a junk belonging to the Great Mogul with 100,000*l.* in her. The Jamaicans took out the money and sunk the ship and brought the money to Carolina; and now the East India Company are in great apprehensions that this will be put to their reckoning.

Sir Thomas Clarges to [Sir Edward Harley].

1692, October 1—I am glad to hear that your son has gone into Radnorshire, which has quieted my mind very much concerning his health.

We have been unfortunate in our land campaigns this year; how we shall be next year, God only knows. Our main affair at sea was successful, and might have been more if we could have pushed it better. But however that happened we have great complaints from merchants of their losses for want of convoys, but it is said there will be better provision against next year. Many undertakers in Scotland, Jersey, and other places propose to fit out privateers.

T. Foley to his cousin, Robert Harley.

1692, October 1—I am sorry you are not well. I believe London air will agree better with you and I hope you will quickly find it so.

It is hotly discoursed that Russell and Nottingham intend to impeach one another next session.

H. Lewes and others to Robert Harley.

[16]92, October 3. New Radnor—Concerning the vacancy for Radnorshire, occasioned by the death of Mr. Williams, and informing him that Mr. Lewis, of Harpton, had commenced his candidature.

P. F[oley] to Sir Edward Harley.

1692, October 4—It is a great trouble to hear that my nephew's distemper has returned.

Our affairs here make most men very grave and thoughtful. But few or none are able to fix on any resolution. Some on pretence to please by change of faces design to fix the foreign interest more completely. Others who are not free of suspicion of playing a double game,

by the like trick hope to get money for the present turn and better places for themselves. Many are very indifferent whether a great deal or a little money be given the next session, hoping for their end both ways; but very few incline to the only probable way, with God's blessing, to save us, and fewer hope to effect it.

The King is apprehensive that Luxemburg and Boufflers will suddenly attack our fortifications in Flanders, and stays to be present at the action.

EDWARD CORKER and others, Commissioners of Accounts in Ireland to the COMMISSIONERS for taking public Accounts, in London.

1692, October 4. Dublin—Inclosing a book of the accounts of the army in Ireland.

SIR THOMAS CLARGES to SIR EDWARD HARLEY.

1692, October 4—I was this day informed by Mr. Paul Foley that your son is much indisposed, which is a matter of great regret to me and all our Commission.

The Parliament of Ireland will assemble tomorrow. There is difficulty in getting a good Speaker for the House of Commons. Sergeant Osborn refuses it. Sir John Temple, the Attorney General, is withdrawn to England to avoid it, so it is like to be put upon Mr. Levins of Chester, Solicitor General there, who is also burgess for Chester in our Parliament, and one well enough qualified in his affection to the Government and the Protestant interests, but he has no estate there. *Torn.*

GEORGE NELSON to ROBERT HARLEY, at Brampton.

[16]92, October 5. Oddingley—Sending testimonials from persons whom he had converted from Popery, swearing, Sabbath breaking, and other evil courses, testifying to the zeal of his ministry.

SIR THOMAS CLARGES to SIR EDWARD HARLEY.

1692, October 6—The news your letter brought me of the breaking of Mr. Harley's "imposthumation" was very welcome to me. I doubt not that the evacuation of humours by it will be a good security for his future health.

GEORGE FOLLET to ROBERT HARLEY.

1692, October 8—My masters, your brethen, the Commissioners, have directed a precept to the Navy Board requiring that an actual survey of all the stores in the yards should be taken; which the Commissioners of that Board pretend will much hinder the current service of the Navy. The Queen seems inclined to have the money taken.

EDWARD COOKE to ROBERT HARLEY.

[16]92, October 8. London—Concerning a libellous sermon and pamphlet, the latter called *A letter from a country gentleman to an eminent but easy citizen.*

Sir Thomas Clarges to Robert Harley.

1692, October 8—All your friends here were much dejected to hear of your sickness and are heartily glad to hear the danger is passed.

The King is expected next week. The Parliament of Ireland is sitting. There were three acts which had been transmitted from thence hither, dispatched away a fortnight ago to be at Dublin at the opening of the session. Eleven more sent from thence, were yesterday read at the Council table.

Theye is still some apprehension that the French may besiege Charleroi.

T. Foley to his cousin, Robert Harley.

1692, October 8—There is a report that a great many highwaymen have been taken in Cambridgeshire, and Witney the famous rogue, killed. Sir Jonathan Raymond is bringing his action against Sir Richard Levet and several other citizens, for dispersing papers against him.

G. Paunceforte to his cousin, Robert Harley.

1692, October 11.—Asking him to support Mr. John Jeffreys who intended to stand for Radnorshire in the place of Mr. Williams who had lately died. *Signet.*

George Follet to Robert Harley.

1692, October 11—There is a report that the French King will pass the winter in great splendour upon the place where he intends to make additions to his empire. Most people look upon Charleroi as a lost town. Those that speak of some little ruffle between the King and the men of Rotterdam do it with remorse and tenderness.

Sir John Temple has sold the place of Master of the Rolls in Ireland to Sir John Topham, by which he seems to take his leave of Ireland.

Sir Thomas Clarges to [Sir Edward Harley].

1692, October 11—Giving foreign intelligence.

Sir Thomas Clarges to Robert Harley.

1692, October 13—We have advice of the besieging of Charleroi by the Marquis of Boufflers, and that the King is going hastily to Brussels to advise about the relief of it. I believe he was surprised at the news as all his baggage was shipped and he was about to embark.

The Same to the Same.

1692, October 15—There is a strong report this day that Charleroi is relieved.

George Follet to Robert Harley.

1692, October 15. York Buildings—This day a proclamation came out prohibiting seamen from serving foreign princes, and authorising commanders of ships abroad to bring them home, and declaring that no demand of redemption shall be made for them, if they happen in such foreign service to be taken by the men of Algiers, Tunis, or Tripoli.

The Same to the Same.

1692, October 20—This morning the Queen passed through the City to meet the King, and the streets at this present seven o'clock are filled with such as expect their return.

George Crofts Esq a member of Parliament in Ireland being accused of many misdemeanours in the late rebellion was expunged the House. The letters to and from the members pass free of postage by order of the Lord Lieutenant, but the House has debated upon the matter thinking it their due of right and not of favour only.

The seamen on Tower Hill, attending the Navy office, "gave some jealousies of disorder amongst them" lately. My Lord Lucas drew out his Tower Guards upon the Hill and fell into an unconcerned way of exercising them. The seamen grumbled and asked "what a devil those lobsters did there. Whilst the soldiers were exercising his Lordship went and held familiar chat with the seamen, and hitting their size chanced to give them great content." This accident, they say, caused the coming forth of the Proclamation.

A. Pye to her cousin [Abigail Harley].

1692, October 22—Since I came hither I have had many qualms at the thought of a country midwife. The "gossipings" at Derby are not to be despised, though not to follow. I was forced to go to a gentlewoman's christening to whom I have been much obliged. I sate at a table with nineteen more, and nigh twenty dishes of meat first and last and all "gentile" ones, and three tables more, most fresh dishes for them. Her children and self all neat and answerable, and this a tradesman's wife. I suppose the gentry are wiser than to vie with them. Of these I have seen very few. I find they are not over forward to visit strangers.

George Follet to Robert Harley.

1692, October 22—Giving Irish Parliamentary news.

Robert Harley to Sir Edward Harley, at Brampton.

[16]92, October 26. The Talbot, at the Cross in Worcester—I hope you got safe to Brampton in good time. My father Foley stayed dinner for us, and after came half way.

Ireland.

1692, October 26 to November 3—Votes of the House of Commons in Ireland. *Differing slightly from the Reports in the Journals of the House of Commons Ireland, Vol. II.*

Robert Harley to Sir Edward Harley.

1692, October 29. Inner Temple—I arrived here safely this evening. The company in the coach were two women, one a Londoner, her sister married to Motly a dancing master in Ludlow; the other taken up at Broadway, an innkeeper's wife in Bishopsgate Street. The two men were a Frenchman, a student of Divinity, and a very tall elderly gentleman, in face like the family of the Howards, very well bred and a good scholar; a Catholic and, I suppose, in orders. He had been in Gloucestershire, Worcestershire, and Staffordshire within four weeks,

and was to have gone up with Mr. Arundel, who is gone sick from Sutton.

I have not seen my sister yet. She was taken out by my Aunt Foley to the Lord Mayor's Show where the King dined, and I know cannot yet return from the crowd.

The Same to [the Same].

1692, November 1—I have been taking what care I can about a sheriff for Radnorshire. There are no members yet come to town, and so cannot guess at their sentiments.

The Same to the Same.

1692, November 5—I am glad to hear so well from my brother Nathaniel, but am now certainly informed the plague was at Aleppo, and the merchants retired as usual.

Lord Breadalbane and Lord Tarbat have come from Scotland, and were received very coldly. Mr. Johnson, Lord "Warestone's" son is in credit with the King and procures good quarters for the Earl of Crawford and his friends, against the wishes of some here.

The Same to the Same.

[16]92, November 8—The Lords sate yesterday. The Earls of Marlborough and Huntingdon complained of their imprisonment, and the Judges were sent for, and after some warmth referred to the Committee of Privileges to search for precedents.

Mr. S. Howe fell upon a man, formerly his servant, and wounded him "within the verge." He surrendered himself this day.

[Sir Edward Harley] to Abigail Harley.

[16]92, November 8—I desire you to buy me some good powder, but not scented with roses. My service to Lady Clinton and Lady Eleanor.

Robert Harley to Sir Edward Harley.

[16]92, November 10—Mr. Howe has given 7,000*l.* bail to answer his striking "in the verge."

Sir R. Rich is accused before the Council for having contrived that the Mayor of Dunwich was pressed and carried off on shipboard, having been his enemy at the election.

The Same, to the Same.

[16]92, November 12—The Irish parliament is prorogued till April, with a sharp rebuke from the Lord Lieutenant to the House of Commons for the vote that the raising money was their right.

My aunt and sister begin their journey in the Bridgnorth coach.

The Same to the Same.

1692, November 15—Yesterday my aunt and sister began their journey in the Bridgnorth coach. I have written two letters to Mr. Baker, to provide a coach and six horses for my aunt.

The Same to the Same.

1692, November 17—I bless God for my brother's safe arrival, and the good news of your health which he brings.

This afternoon the Commissioners of Accounts waited on the King with their accounts, which he received graciously and gave them thanks for their pains. Lord Coningsby came yesterday to the House. It is whispered that had the Parliament sate a day longer in Ireland, he would have been impeached or voted an enemy to the public, but the Viceroy, his friend, prorogued them.

Edward Harley to his father, Sir Edward Harley.

[16]92, November 17. London—I got safe this evening to this place. The roughness of the ways made the journey from Worcester to Oxford very difficult. I intended to have met my aunt and sister at Islip, but it grew so dark when we were at Woodstock that we could not find the way over the downs.

[The Same] to the Same.

[16]92, November 19—This day the matter was revived about the Dissenter's meeting house in Lancashire. Mr. Finch who was counsel against them did not fail to represent them with most malicious insinuations, and said they might as well go to have a cathedral certified as that which was a chapel. The Lord Chief Justice took notice of the dissenting ministers preaching to more congregations than one, and said that it might not be amiss now that Parliament was sitting to provide against that matter. By advice of the Attorney General the matter is put off to next term.

The highway men do as much infest the roads as pirates do the sea. They appear publicly like soldiers with carbines and blunderbusses.

R. H[arley] to [Sir Edward Harley].

1692, November 19—On business concerning the Sheriffs of Herefordshire and Radnorshire.

[The Same] to [the Same.]

1692, November 22—Last night in a full Committee of the whole House, a question was formed and calmly debated for five hours that the King be humbly desired to constitute a Commission of the Admiralty of persons knowing in maritime affairs, and that all orders to the fleet may for the future, go through the Admiralty so constituted. This passed without a division.

Mr. Powle, Master of the Rolls, and Shadwell the poet laureate and Mr. Francis Newport are dead.

[D] Richards to Edward Harley.

1692, November 23—William Smith as he came from Oxford saw five persons rob a coach and six horses upon "Chappel of the Heath," which five persons he said he saw the evening before at Woodstock. If this be true your preservation was a special mercy. I am much grieved at the divisions and animosities in Turner's Hall. I beseech the Lord to heal them.

ROBERT HARLEY to SIR EDWARD HARLEY.

[16]92, November 24—Yesterday the committee voted that in future all vacancies in the army should be filled up by natives of their Majesties' dominions and that the foot should be commanded by an English General.

[The SAME] to [the SAME.]

1692, November 26—At the Committee to-day this question passed, that many of the great affairs of the Government having for the time past been unsuccessfully managed by those that have the chief direction thereof under their Majesties, his Majesty be humbly moved to prevent like dangers for the future by employing persons of known integrity and ability.

EDWARD HARLEY to his father [SIR EDWARD HARLEY].

[16]92, November 26—Yesterday the action brought by the Duke of Norfolk against Mr. Jermyn for committing adultery with the Duchess was tried. The jury found for the Duke, but gave only a hundred marks damages. The Lord Chief Justice was in a great rage and told them he was sorry the world should know how low virtue and chastity were valued in England.

The SAME to the SAME.

[16]92, November 29—Being this day upon the Exchange, Mr. Trench told me had lately received a letter from brother Nat wherein he writes that he did not leave the town during the contagion. The merchants are uncertain when the fleet will sail. The goods are all on board, but they must wait for a convoy. For the same reason the Portugal fleet is stayed in the Downs. Lady Harley came here last night. She seems much pleased with her condition and says her husband has entered into a 500*l.* bond to use her well.

[ROBERT HARLEY] to [SIR EDWARD HARLEY.]

1692, November 29—This day has been very hard. We have sate all day upon the estimates of the navy, and it is resolved by the Committee to give near two millions to that use.

The Earl of Lincoln is dead. The House of Lords have begun to give the King advice.

[The SAME] to [the SAME.]

1692, December 1—Yesterday when the Committee was sitting some words passed from Sir E. Seymour reflecting upon Mr. Palmes, chairman of the committee, for examining the matters and orders relating to "the discent." Mr. Palmes replied very smartly, "which grew into a warme debate, and charging the ministers with miscarriages and produced this qestion, that his Majesty be advised not to employ any in his councils &c. whose principles did not own his title superior to King James or any other." The Earl of Nottingham was named in the debate by one gentleman, but the courtiers who managed the debate did not think fit to make use of the opportunity, and it is not probable the House will come up to so great warmth again.

D. R[ICHARDS] to ——.

1692, December 1—Concerning the election of the sheriff for Radnorshire.

R[OBERT] H[ARLEY] to [SIR EDWARD HARLEY].

1692, December 3—It is now past eleven and I have but just got home. It was the largest debate on one question that ever I knew. The weight of the debate on one side lay upon seven or eight against all the place-men. Though they have gained their point, I hope we have shown the parts of honest men and lovers of our country.

The SAME to [the SAME].

1692, December 6—Yesterday was the Committee of advice. These votes passed. That the miscarriages in the management of the descent brought great dishonour on England, and secondly, that the want of necessary and timely orders in those who should have given them occasioned that miscarriage. This was expressly levelled at the Earl of Nottingham.

E. H[ARLEY] to SIR EDWARD HARLEY.

[16]92, December 6—Concerning the votes mentioned in the preceding letter.

[ROBERT HARLEY] to [SIR EDWARD HARLEY.]

1692, December 8—This day the Committee of Advice sate, and those that had made great noise before let everything fall as they have done before.

Lord Banbury has killed his brother-in-law, Mr. Lawson, a Roman Catholic, in a duel.

The SAME to [the SAME].

1692, December 10—Last night, Lord Mohun, Captain Hill, and Mr. Knight having been hindered from attempting Mrs. Bracegirdle by Mr. Montford the actor, they dogged him, and at twelve at night killed him with three wounds. Lord Mohun was taken. The murder was at his own door in Norfolk Street.

[The SAME] to [the SAME.]

1692, December 13—This morning news came that the Portsmouth mail had been robbed, but only the packet was taken which contained Sir Francis Wheeler's orders who is to command the squadron to the West Indies. The Postmaster desires to know of me what prejudice it will be to have Ludlow post come through Bewdley instead of through Worcester.

[The SAME] to [the SAME.]

1692, December 15—Sir Robert Henley, Knight for Hampshire, died this morning.

[The Same] to [the Same.]

1692, December 17—Giving Parliamentary reports.

[Sir Edward Harley?] to Robert Harley, at Westminster.

[16]92, December 17—In the beginning of the settlement of the post office, the noted road being to Chester and so for Ireland, there only came an out branch to Worcester and Bewdley, and from Bewdley to Ludlow. It was obtained many years since to come directly to Oxford and Worcester and so to Ludlow. It is conceived it will be a great prejudice both to Worcester and Ludlow if it should be again altered. The Earl, and the two burgesses for Ludlow and the citizens of Worcester should concern themselves. *Written by M. Harley.*

E. H[arley] to his father, Sir Edward Harley.

[16]92, December 17—I hear Lord Macclesfield is very earnest with the King to suppress playhouses. Whether the bishops will join with him is uncertain.

I have endeavoured to find a place for Mr. Farley's son. I hear of a very ingenious chemist that will take him, but he demands 50*l.* There is a surgeon of a ship that will take him with 10*l.*

Robert Harley to Sir Edward Harley.

[16]92, December 24—The weather is very severe and we have many "stinking fogs."

E. H[arley] to Sir Edward Harley.

[16]92, December 26—Mr. Johnson's last book has given no slight wound to the clergy. The gentlemen of the Middle Temple, who keep a private Christmas, upon the proposal of inviting Dr. Sherlock, resolved that no person should be invited or admitted amongst them except Mr. Johnson.

The town is full of stories of the great preparations that are making in France for a descent, and that the Jacobites are buying up horses in all places. It cannot be thought that their hopes of success depend upon their numbers but upon a Ministry that has given so many undoubted proofs of their friendship. That this shall be altered by the Parliament is hardly to be expected where so much inconsistency and unsteadiness prevails. Mr. T. F[oley] has not spared to asperse his brother and son for opposing the treason and abjuration bill. It is evident from their own confession that the weight would have fallen on many of the dissenters who would not have taken the oath prescribed by it.

[Robert Harley] to [Sir Edward Harley.]

[16]92, December 27—The rejection of the bill of adjuration and making words treason is improved by some designing men to reproach Mr. T. F[oley] and one you are pleased to call friend. He thought he was to be opposed upon the same principles that many good men have hitherto justified their dissent from human impositions, and now they begin to be sensible and express it, how much some of their nominal friends were mistaken.

E. H[arley] to Sir Edward Harley.

[16]92, December 31—On private affairs.

T. Beverley to Robert Harley.

[16]92, — 15—Asking him to recommend Mr. Ravenshaw as a fit person to make a catalogue of the library about to be removed from St. James's to Whitehall.

Robert Harley to Sir Edward Harley.

1692.—A list of the officers killed in Flanders.

[Edward Harley] to Sir Edward Harley, at Brampton.

[16]92[-3], January 7—The slow and inconsistent proceedings of Parliament is so great that it gives little hopes of relief from that which some persons call treachery. Sir Edward Hussey's bill against taking office fails by the power of the Court, aided by the Bishops. Some other ways are projected. One is, a bill commanding the keepers of the Great Seal in every third year after the first sitting of Parliament to issue out writs for the calling a new Parliament if no direction be given by the King before such time.

A petition is coming from Ireland against Lord Coningsby, which is likely to be followed with vigour. I am told that country is under great oppression and misery.

T. Foley and others to William Gwillim, High Sheriff of Herefordshire, at Langston near Ross.

1692-3, January 12. Westminster—Expressing their hope that Sir Edward Harley might be elected Knight to serve in Parliament for Herefordshire, in the room of Sir John Morgan. *Copy.*

B. Woodroffe to [Edward Harley].

1692-3, January 14. Gloucester Hall, Oxford—Concerning his scheme of education and the opening of his hall at Oxford.

D. R[ichards] to Robert Harley, at Westminster.

1692[-3], January 14. Hereford—Concerning the candidature of Sir Edward Harley for Herefordshire. *Signet.*

[Robert Harley] to [Sir Edward Harley.]

[16]92-3, January 17—On election matters and giving parliamentary news.

[The Same] to [the Same.]

[16]92-3, January 19—Giving parliamentary news.

[Edward Harley] to Sir Edward Harley.

[16]92[-3], January 21—I went yesterday to Hackney to see Mr. Popham and Mrs. Arme, who have lived there about six weeks. He

spoke of the children at Bourton and that his friends were afraid that he should take them to live with him, and complained that his mother had left all her plate and jewels to his sisters and nothing to him or his daughter.

[Robert Harley] to [Sir Edward Harley].

1692–3, January 21—Amongst the expressions this day used in the debate about the book by the Bishop of Salisbury called *A Pastoral Letter*, this was said. "The Bishops have preached themselves, printed themselves, voted themselves, and flattered themselves out of the esteem of all honest Englishmen."

[The Same] to [the Same].

[16]92–3, January 24—Bishop Burnet's *Pastoral Letter* is ordered to be burnt, by the Commons. The Act of Indemnity saves his person.

The Same to the Same.

[16]92–3, January 26—Last night we were alarmed by a great fire which destroyed several houses over against the Maypole in the Strand.

Tuesday next is designed for the trial of Lord Mohun "on scaffold" in Westminster Hall.

[The Same] to [the Same].

[16]92–3, January 28—Yesterday was appointed for the first reading of the bill for the annual sitting of Parliament and triennial elections. Sir E. Seymour said it was a bill against the Crown and against the Commons, and ought not to be countenanced. The debate was very solemn for and against a second reading. I had hardly the hopes we should do anything, but after some hours debate, although last night there had been great solicitation and many called honest gentlemen had professed to be against it, yet upon the division called for by Sir E. Seymour the yeas had 210, the noes 132. The tellers for the yeas were Mr. Pelham and myself.

[The Same] to [the Same].

[16]92–3, January 31—This morning my brother began his journey on horseback towards Oxford. He hoped to reach there to-night.

[The Same] to [the Same].

1692–3, February 2—I cannot imagine what foundation there was for the report of my death.

This day our triennial bill was read a second time. I cannot tell what success it will meet with at the Committee, as many may consent to clog it that dare not openly to appear against it.

[The Same] to [the Same].

[16]92–3, February (January) 4—"The complaint on yesterday's vote of the Admirals shews how well founded their opinion was that voted they would not advise his Majestie to have experienced admirals."

This day, the town having clamoured at the delay, gave judgment of not guilty [against Lord Mohun]. They have taken a news writer into custody for saying the evidence was strong enough to hang a commoner

[The Same] to [the Same].

1692–3, February 7—Before this can come to your hands I suppose the Herefordshire election will be determined. Under the circumstances, I should think there is no reason that you should be at any manner of expense. The session is likely to be soon determined, for yesterday being upon ways and means to raise money, one of the most difficult points was carried, namely raising half a million upon the continued impositions. This begat a great debate and gave the Commissioners of Accounts an opportunity to vindicate themselves against several industrious whispers.

[The Same] to [the Same].

1692–3, February 9—Yesterday at the Committee it was carried to raise half a million and ten thousand pounds more upon new customs. There is a recent whisper that the King will come to morrow to demand more money, It will be a very great surprise and I cannot easily guess the pretence for it.

I hope God is gracious in the transactions at Hereford yesterday.

[The Same] to [the Same].

[16]92–3, February 11—I hear that the election at Hereford has passed off without any opposition. Blessed be God for it. Last night cousin Papillon being safely delivered of a daughter, died, refusing to take anything to allay vapours.

B. Woodroffe to——

1692[–3], February 11. Gloucester Hall, Oxford—Concerning the proposed scheme for the restoration of Gloucester Hall.

Gloucester Hall.

[1693]—Draft of a bill to be submitted to Parliament for the restoration of Gloucester Hall, which had been converted into a forge and armoury during the Civil wars. *Enclosed in the preceding letter.*

Sir Edward Harley to Edward Harley, at Brampton.

[16]92[–3], February 21. King Street—"Yesterday I was admitted into the House and with extra-ordinary respect from very many, which is mentioned in all humility to the glory" of the Lord. The House sets to business at the regular hour of rising, and rises when the sun is setting.

The King returned last night from Portsmouth. His passage quickly into Flanders is believed. The peace with the Turk is a mere vapour.

Edward Harley to Sir Edward Harley.

[16]92[–3], March 1—The weather continues severe. The snow is very deep in the park. We take every care of the deer and sheep to provide hay and "brows." Cattle and swine are excessively dear in these markets.

The Same to the Same.

[16]92–3, March 14—The court before the house is levelled and laid very dry and handsome, without any pitching. The pales that divide it from the green court are so shattered that the swine are continually in the garden. If you please to have a handsome pale there, it would be an ornament to the house and secure the gardens. Your order is duly observed in going constantly every morning to prayers by six o'clock.

— Feuquier to Robert Harley.

1692[–3], March 23—Announcing his departure for Ireland with Lord Lanesborough and asking for payment of the balance of moneys due to him. *French.*

—— to ——

1692–3—Giving an account of the recent session of the Irish Parliament and of the condition of the people in Ireland. *Four pages.*

Sir C. Musgrave to Robert Harley.

1693, April 1—Last night I got home safely. Such long journeys are very uneasy and make home most agreeable. Great promotions at Court, and some have soared higher than I believe themselves expected. If the public have a benefit by it all will be well pleased. "Traver's" prefferment I suppose is a great disappointment to Sir Joseph Tredenham, and his son caught by the "finess" of his godfather, who I suppose must get off the stop upon the East India ship, otherwise people will clamour. Sir Rowland Gwyn must be content with an exhibition out of his place. This is killing two birds with one stone. Lord Lansdown's quitting will not cool the Colonel. Sir Scroop How will be satisfied though my Lord Bellamont may grumble. The news from Leghorn will hasten our Streights fleet.

The Same to the Same.

1593, April 8—Contrary winds obliged his Majesty's return and gave opportunity for candidates to renew their applications, and if they succeed not then they are for quitting his service, which is an ill sign. I could not imagine Mr. Russell would have thought of the Isle of Wight. Having the power of choosing so many Parliament[men] I would believe to be the temptation, not the income. It hath disappointed many and I wonder how the Marquis resents it. If Trevor continue, he is good natured. It is surprising the stop of the interlopers when so great a patriot of his country was engaged in it, but Sir Josiah is a charming person. Ned Nicholas at last gains his long laboured point; the determination of a session generally makes some long laboured examples. Secretary Trenchard hath two able supporters. I hope his Majesty will not allow the Chief Baron to recant.

[Robert Harley] to Sir Edward Harley.

[16]93, April 8—On private affairs.

The Same to the Same.

1693, April 11—I purposed to have waited upon you in King Street "but have been catched by the multiplicity of writing until it was too late, specially being a bonfire night."

Sir C. Musgrave to Robert Harley.

1693, April 13—The newsmongers are not so fortunate as to discover the reason of the disappointments befallen so many, who can give undeniable reasons for their expectations—just merit, and how that should miscarry is to me a riddle.

That of the East India Company I take to be upon a foot that is generally prosperous. I know not whether the non-payment may not be relievable in Chancery, for it is a pity so dexterous a company should suffer by the strict rigour of the law.

It seems Lord Castleton's daughter is in as much haste as the Earl of Kingston.

The Same to the Same.

1693, April 27—My Lord Coningsby's mark of favour, the reason of it appeared not in the House of Commons. Should the Lord Lieutenant accept of the master of the Ordnance it is a great condescension. My Lord Middleton's carrying proposals I think is a French brand. Israel Fielding's preferment is extra-ordinary. To have bestowed it on Goldwell had been more advantageous.

The custom of London proves favourable to the Earl of Radnor, and if the settlement should not be faulty, the revenue of land during the daughter's life is great.

The Same to the Same.

1693, May 22—If the French King propound peace to all the confederates except us we shall then find whether any will be caught with the artifice and make an ill return for the great support we have given them. If our fleet can engage I doubt not but the admirals will improve it to the utmost. My thoughts judge our fleet our great security. We have reason to expect some great action from the result of the great ministers at Portsmouth.

Corn bears a good price here. Our weather begins to look like summer.

The Same to the Same.

1693, May 26—So great a sum to be raised in Scotland was surprising. The close of their session will show the whole matter. It seems hard that my Lord Coningsby after so great fatigue should not be one of the Commissioners for Ireland; possibly his generous temper leads him to imitate the Roman consul who when the war was ended returned to the plough. I am sorry the admirals require mediators to rectify misunderstandings. I wish that may not prejudice when action is requisite.

The Navy.

1693, May 30—Report by Mr. Potts, Comptroller of the victualling of the navy, to the Board of accounts concerning the method observed by him in making up his accounts.

R. H[arley] to Sir Edward Harley, at Brampton.

1693, June 1—Yesterday an express brought an account that the French fleet had been seen off Scilly. Our fleet sailed from Spithead on

Tuesday so there may soon be an action. I hope this will find you arrived safely at Brampton.

The Same to the Same.

1693, June 3—The fleet seen off the Scilly, proves to be a fleet of merchantmen, Danes, Swedes, and Hamburghers.

Sir Francis Wheler to ——.

1693, June 4. The *Resolution* in Latitude 34° 20′.—Just upon my leaving London I waited on you, and discoursing on the affairs of the West Indies, and particularly to our expedition, you gave me leave to write to you about it. We have made but a bad hand, and it will doubtless make a noise in the world, and since our leaving St. Christophers Colonel Foulkes, Commander-in-Chief of the land forces is dead so that I am like to bear the load.

Sir, I have enclosed to you a journal kept by me, relating to the proceedings of the united strength of the ships and the land forces from our leaving Spikes in Barbados to our breaking up at Dominica, and afterwards leaving St. Christophers, beginning on this our northern voyage.

I have enclosed the votes of the whole Council of War under their hands upon their leaving Martinique, and their declining to Guadaloupe. You may please to find both those resolutions were against my opinion, so that let the act be good or bad I have no hand in it.

The papers are righly transcribed, so that if you find I am not in fault I beg the favour of your friendship.

I hear the Barbados people are very angry. I dare say the officers that went on this expedition are not, for they were unanimous for quitting those two enterprises. That of Martinique Colonel Foulkes first and earnestly moved.

The spotted fever rages violently among us, and hath already killed near seven hundred seamen and six captains out of two thousand, and the most part of our ships companies now are sick and weak. If the northern clime does not help us, God knows how we shall get home our ships.

These two regiments have severely smarted, the two Colonels, one Major, seven Captains, and about sixteen or eighteen Lieutenants and Ensigns, and crowds of soldiers are dead. I shall not trouble you any more, but refer to the two enclosed papers, which are very full. *Copy.*

A Journal

"kept by Sir Francis Wheler, Knight, rear Admiral and Commander in Chief of all Their Majesties ships and vessels in the West Indies, of the proceeding of the fleet and land forces under the command of Colonel John Foulke.

From Thursday the 30th March [16]92 when the fleet sailed from the town of Spikes in Barbados on Martineco expedition to the quitting of Martineco, and the fleet and forces breaking up at Dominica the 29th of April 1693 and afterwards to the 18th of May, when we left St. Christophers bound to New England.

Thursday, March 30. We left the town of Spikes in Barbados with the whole fleet consisting of, according to the annexed list, with these following regiments.

men.

Colonel { Foulks 600 / Goodwin 700 / 200 recruits of Lloyds / Salters } of Barbados of near 400 each. / Butler }

We steered away for Cul Sac Mareen the S.E. part of Martineco, pursuant to the resolution [of the] Council of War held at Barbados.

Friday, 21 [31]. At noon the north point of the Isle of Martineco bore W.S.W. eight leagues off. 'Twas calm almost till the afternoon.

Saturday, April 1. At six last night the south part of Martineco bore south west and by west about eight leagues.

We made a little sail in the night to the southward, and about twelve of clock we brought to, and drove till morning. As soon as it was light we bore away for Martineco, and by the advice of Captain Julius our pilot about nine we anchored in eleven fathom in Cul de Sac Mareen, the south eastmost part of the island, about a mile and half from the shore. Colonel Foulk and Colonel Lloyd and I went in a sloop to look out for a convenient place in order to land the army this afternoon.

The enemy had several small guards alongst the shore, from one of which they struck me with a musket shot under the left pap, which fell down at my feet, and only left a great contusion which continued about a month.

Orders were given for the forces to embark upon the boats, but the wind blowing too fresh, they could not tow the longboats ahead.

Sunday, 2. The necessary orders were given for the men to imbark in the boats before day, which being accordingly done, about nine of clock Colonel Foulks landed with about 1500 men without any opposition. The boats were immediately sent off, and towards evening all the army were on shore. Detachment was sent out of the main body, and the country was immediately put into a flame.

Monday, April 3. The forces continued ashore, and burnt and destroyed all the houses and plantations about Cul Sac Mareen, most of which were good sugar works. The inhabitants and negroes fled into the woods. This evening Colonel Foulkes came on board and ordered Colonel Goodwin's regiment to draw off and embark leaving Colonel Lloyd to command.

Tuesday, 4th. All the forces were aboard of their respective ships.

Wednesday, 5th. I went ashore with a detachment of about five hundred men in the bay towards the Diamond, and burned several houses and plantations, and at night came aboard again according to order.

An accident happened to-day by a lieutenant of one of the Barbados regiments going ashore to a plantation without order, with six or seven soldiers, besides the boat's crew, who were waylaid by the enemy; two were killed, himself and all the rest were taken.

Thursday, 6. Lieutenant Colonel Lillingston was sent ashore with a strong party to burn the country in the bay towards the Diamond, and at night returned with his men, having done his business.

Friday, 7. The *Experiment* came in from Antego, and brought word that General Codrington was at sea with the Leeward Island forces.

Saturday, 8. The *Mermaid* arrived from Antego having lost company with the Leeward Island fleet.

Sunday, 9. The *Chester* arrived with General Codrington, and most of the Leeward Islands forces, in seven sail of merchantmen and sloops.

Monday 10. A ship came in with some of the Nevis men.

Colonel Lloyd's regiment that came from Leeward, besides his two hundred recruits, consisted of four hundred effective good men.

The Leeward Islands militia forces, consisting of above eight hundred men, vizt. of three hundred from Antego, commanded by Colonel Williams, three hundred from Mont Serrat, two hundred from Nevis commanded by Colonel Blackston, besides a hundred privateers in sloops, who are to join the Antego men.

The fleet continued here to get some wood.

Tuesday, 11. A Council of War was assembled by sea and land officers to consult what service to go about.

It was resolved to sail to-morrow morning with the whole fleet to Cul De Sac Royal and anchor, and after viewing the fort, we resolved further what to do.

Wednesday, 12. In pursuance of the resolution of the Council of War held yesterday, at eight this morning we weighed, with the whole fleet of men-of-war and merchantmen, and sailed down to Fort Royal, and at six in the afternoon anchored in ten fathom, the fort bearing N.N.E. ½ E. two miles off.

Thursday, 13. The officers of the Council of War being assembled, before resolving when and where to land, it was agreed that all the officers should inform themselves, as much as they could, of the situation and strength of Fort St. Pierre. In order to which Colonel Foulkes,

Colonel Codrington, Colonel Lloyd, Colonel Goodwin, Colonel Williams, Colonel Salter, myself, and several other officers plied up into the bay to view the fort. After doing our business, and having several shot fired at us without doing any mischief, we bore away to the ships. The same company in the afternoon went away in the *Ruby*, *Experiment*, and a sloop, to Port St. Pierre, but proving little wind rise could not go in the bay of Port St. Pierre time enough before night.

Friday, 14. In the morning we stood into the bay of Port St. Pierre, and viewed and sounded, but could not find ground, though we were within musket shot of the north side of the bay. We stood along shore two or three miles beyond Petitroyes, and then stood upon a wind to ply up to Cul Sac Royal, but it proving little wind we could not get into Cul Sac Royal this night.

Saturday, 15. Having but little wind, it was this afternoon before we got into the bay among the ships. A Council of War was presently assembled, where it was resolved, in consideration of the vast strength, both by nature and art of Fort Royal not to attack it this time, but go and attack Port St. Pierre, in order to which, directions was given to the whole fleet to sail privately to-morrow night, and if possible to get into the bay before day. Colonel Foulke appointed one thousand men under the command of Colonel Holt to be ready in the boats before day to land upon giving a signal, and the boats immediately to come off for the rest.

Sunday, 16. All things were preparing to-day in order for landing the men to-morrow.

Monday, 17. About eleven last night the fleet got under sail without firing a gun with a fine gale of wind. We went with an easy sail that we might not overshoot the place. Towards morning it fell calm, so that of break of day we was under the high land, on the south side of Port St. Pierre with all the commanded men in the boats. We passed by a small battery, who thought fit to salute us but without any damage. Lying becalmed in this place, and in this order for landing, it made the enemy draw down their forces in expectation of our coming ashore.

About nine of clock a fine gale sprung up, which quickly shot us cross the bay. I had appointed the *Experiment*, and *Quaker* ketch to let drop their anchors, though it were in the wash of the shore.

As soon as we saw them brought up at the N.W. side of the bay about a mile from the shore,

we all stood in, and the signal was made to anchor, and the commanded men that were in the boats to land. My own ship and half the fleet were forced to make a trip or two, so that Colonel Holt and all his party, and a great many more soldiers were got ashore before I let drop my anchor. We veered out a hundred and seventy fathom before we could bring up, and was within less than musket shot of the shore.

What with the false alarm of our landing at the other side of the bay it so drew off the enemy's strength, as that there was not one man lost in landing.

Colonel Foulkes commanded the eminency to be possessed, and several parties to be sent out, who not meeting the enemy, took the liberty to advance so far in the country.

By this time great bodies of the enemy were marching out from the town—which was not above three miles—towards our forces, who pressing hard upon our advanced parties, and they being too far from the main body, they were forced in a manner to retreat till they were succoured by Colonel Foulkes, and a great body of our men, when the enemy posted themselves on the other side, and almost and unpassable gullies (*sic*).

A warm firing continued from both parties all the afternoon, and we reckon the enemy had the advantage by virtue of their long guns.

Colonel Williams at the head of the Antego men marching upon the seaside, with an intent of coming on the enemy's flank, as some of his men came out of a lane they were warmly received, and his captain and lieutenant of the grenadiers with eight of their men killed and taken, and the rest obliged to retreat to a pass.

Towards night all the forces being landed, our men kept their posts along the deep gully and river down to the seaside.

In this afternoon's service it was judged there were one hundred and thirty men killed and wounded on our side, among which several officers vizt. Major Nott received a dangerous shot in the groin. Captain Hawkins, Lieutenant Colonel of the sea battalion escaped very narrowly, a musket shot having grazed upon his skull. Captain De Laval, Captain Picket, and Captain Lyons of Colonel Lloy regiment. The two first were shot into the arms, and the other into the body. Captain Brown of Colonel Foulke's regiment was shot on the thigh, just above the pan of the knee very dangerously, a great loss, being a

very good and the only bombardier and chief firemaster. Captain Thorne of one of the Barbados regiments was killed, and several subaltern officers of all the regiments were killed and wounded, whose names I do not know.

Tuesday, 18th. Several frigates were under sail very early in the morning by Colonel Foulkes request, to lie by the shore side with their broadsides while the forces were to pass the gully and to attack the enemy. But as soon as it was day it was observed that the enemy had quitted their posts, and retired to the town, a very strong post indeed, fortified with trench upon trench, assisted with a very steep hill, that in my opinion it was impossible for our forces to have beaten the enemy from it.

All our army ascended up the hill from whence they saw the enemy very well entrenched by art and nature in the town which was less than cannon shot off. The several regiments had their posts assigned them, and they immediately fell to hutting. In the afternoon by Colonel Foulke's direction two of the field pieces were landed with ammunition and by strength of hand was haled up the hill into the camp, and began to play upon the enemy. The rest of this day was employed in carrying bread and cheese and ammunition into the camp. Our soldiers were well supplied with water from a fine river, which ran at the foot of the hill.

Wednesday, 19th. This morning Colonel Foulkes went out with a party of four hundred men which was strengthened by several other parties which followed him to a thousand. His intent was to see if he could find a passage to lead the army upon the back of the enemy to the landward, because it appeared that they was not so well fortified that way. One of his parties met with another of the enemy and had warm fire, but our men shamefully gave ground, and ran into the main body. Colonel Foulkes with his sword in his hand had much ado to stop a rout.

The enemy seeing our camp weakened by Colonel Foulkes' strong detachment and several bodies of our men who was haling up more cannon, took the occasion to make a small sally upon our out guards, but were repulsed by a part of Colonel Foulkes' regiment led by Captain Sprouston, who bravely jumped into the enemy's trenches, and killed the commanding officer with his sword. This party was backed by Colonel Blackston and his regiment. So the enemy thought fit to come out no more.

We had several men killed and wounded in this action particularly Lieutenant Marcum of the Sea (*sic*) lost his leg with a cannon shot. About noon Colonel Foulke returned, and said there were such unpassable gullies that there was no thoughts of marching that way.

Four more of our field pieces were landed and haled up to battery in our camp and played upon the enemy. One of our mortar pieces was by order brought ashore, and mounted upon the beach ready to be drawn up. The [enemy] has mounted several cannon and fires briskly upon our camp.

Thursday, 20. This morning Colonel Foulks sent for me and all the sea captains to attend at a Council of War held in the camp, where every regiment gave an account of the sick and wounded, and their effective men, wherein it appeared the army was 3,200 men.

Colonel Foulkes made a motion that the army being grown weak, and the enemy very strongly entrenched, and that there was no probability of taking the town, that we should privately withdraw, and embark our cannon and men.

This occasioned a warm debate, myself and several others opposing it. At last it was agreed that in consideration, that it was a thing of great importance that His Majesty and the nation might be fully informed of our proceedings, that an oath of secrecy should be taken, lest the enemy should know by deserters what we are doing, and that everybody should bring in next morning to the Council of War under his hand fairly written, his opinion whether in the circumstances of affairs, that the army should attack the town vigorously by way of siege or draw off and imbark.

Friday, 21. About nine of clock the Council of War was assembled in the camp where everybody's opinion was received, and all agreed to draw off and imbark except myself, Lieutenant Colonel Colt, and, I think, one more; and accordingly Colonel Foulke ordered the mortar piece to be carried on board again. About eight at night they began to draw off the cannon, and bring them down to the water-side, and by three in the morning, all the cannon and men were imbarked, and before four all the small vessels that lay under the shore were under sail.

Saturday, 22. At eight this morning we were under sail with most of the fleet. It was almost calm all the day. In the afternoon a Council of War was assembled to know what we were to do, and it was resolved to go to Dominica for water and dispose of the soldiers aboard their proper

ships, who are now so promiscuously aboard the several ships, as they could get aboard last night. It rained extreme hard all this evening and all night.

Sunday, 23. About noon we got to anchor under Dominica, at the mouth of a very fine river. All the boats were employed in getting their own soldiers aboard their respective ships, and in getting fresh water.

Tuesday, 25. The soldiers being now aboard their proper ships, a Council of War was assembled, where it was proposed whether we should go and attack Guardeloope. Every officer gave his opinion under his hand as they did at Martineco, and it was carried in the negative by the whole board, except myself and one or two more. So that since Martineco was quitted, and Guardeloope not to be attacked, the Council of War resolved that every man should go to his own home, the Barbados and Leeward Island forces to go away with good convoys, as soon as they had water, and the fleet to sail down to St. Christophers to water and take care of the sick seamen and soldiers who are a great number.

Wednesday 26. This evening the *Mermaid, London Merchant, Hospital* and *Success* sailed with sick and wounded men to Back Starr at St. Christophers.

„ 27. General Codrington sailed with the *Chester* to Antego with the Leeward Island forces.

„ 29. We weighed, just got off from the shore having very little wind. The *Diamond* and *Tiger* sailed to Barbados, with all the forces of that island, in the merchant ships that are to load there according to the annexed list.

The *Pembroke* sailed to Barbados to bring down the *Canterbury* store ship to us to St. Christophers.

May 1. We were between Dominica and Guardeloope.

Tuesday 2. Off of Guardeloope with very little wind.

Wednesday 3. We were off of Mount Serrat.

Thursday 4. At eleven of the clock we came to an anchor at Back Starr in St. Christophers.

The fleet and soldiers are very sickly and die very fast.

Yesterday the *Dunkirk* buried fifteen men.

I have sent ashore to the Governor to desire him to take care of the sick men. His answer is, that Back Starr is full of sick men that the *Hospital* and *Mermaid* brought in, and that the country hath no houses to receive them, having very few inhabitants since the war.

Thursday, Friday and Saturday all the long boats were employed in unloading the soldiers provisions from the *Sarah and Anne*,

Bordeaux Merchant, and *Benjamin* that are to be discharged.

The *Dunkirk*, *Experiment*, and *Mermaid* sailed to Old Road, to take in water and put their sick men ashore in tents.

A contagious distemper of the spotted fever is now so furious amongst us, that as abundance die daily, so hardly one that hath the distemper escapes with life.

The *Mermaid* and *Experiment* have but few men well, and the *Dunkirk* but very little better, and the other men-of-war very near their condition. We first received this distemper at Barbados, and is the same that was there the last year.

Tuesday. The *Hawke*, *Owners Love*, *Cignot*, *Quaker* and *Bomb* ketch sailed to the Old Road to water.

Wednesday. We, the *Ruby*, *Dragon*, *Advice*, and *Chester* sailed to Old Road to water. As soon as we were anchored, we sent to pitch our tents to get our sick men ashore. My ship had a hundred and buried, three, four, five, and six men a day.

From Wednesday to this day sevennight all the ships were employed a watering when we imbarked all the well soldiers of Colonel Foulke's and Colonel Goodwin's regiments.

Thursday morning we all weighed, bound by the King's orders to New England. By this violent plague that attends, we are in that bad condition, that we could not sail our ships but by the help of the soldiers, and if upon the change of the latitude God does not please to bless us with His mercy, we shall not be able to get to a port, myself being taken ill yesterday. Here follows a list of those ships that go with us:

Resolution. *Ruby*. *Dragon*. *Hawk* fire-ship.
Dunkirk. *Advice*. *Mermaid*.
Quaker ketch. *Bomb* ketch. *Owners Love* fire-ship.

Merchantmen.

Bird and *Success* hired by the month, loaden with soldiers bread.

Martin's Delight, loaden with soldiers provisions.

William and Mary, loaden with soldiers victuals.

Mary Cat of Pool, loaden with Ordnance stores.

When we were under sail the *Pembroke* and the *Canterbury* store ship joined us from Barbados, both very sickly with the contagion. I don't take an account of the wind

because it always blows a Trade from N.E. to S.E. but in hurricane time." *Enclosed in the preceding letter.*

The Same.

Same dates—An abstract of the above journal.

Councils of War.

"At a Council of War held on board Their Majesties Ship *Resolution* in Cul de Sac Royal in Martineco the 15th of April 1693, for attacking Fort St. Peter.

Present:

Sir Francis Wheeler, Knt., Rear Admiral &c. for Fort St. Peter.
Captain Wickham for Fort St. Peter.
Captain Heath, Fort St. Peter.
Captain Hawkins, the same.
Captain Deane, the same.
Captain Vickers, the same.
Captain Greenway, the same.
Captain Kirk, the same.
The Honble. Colonel Foulkes, Fort St. Peter.
His Excellency Colonel Codrington, the same.
Colonel Lloyd, the same.
Colonel Holt, the same.
Colonel Goodwin, the same.
Colonel Williams of Antego, Fort Royal.
Colonel Salter of Barbados, the same.
Captain Blackston of Mount Serrat, Fort St. Peter.
Lieutenant Colonel Littleton, Fort Royal.
Lieutenant Colonel Colt, Fort St. Peter.
Lieutenant Colonel Hamilton of Antego, Fort Royal.
Lieutenant Colonel Bishop of Barbados, the same.
Major Nott, Fort St. Peter.
Major Rabesiner, the same.
Major Abrahel, the same.
Major Byham of Antego, the same.
Major Hawkins of Barbados, the same.
Major Pearse of Barbados, Fort Royal.

The question is, whether the forces shall land first and destroy Fort St. Peter and the plantations thereabouts, or begin with the Fort Royal.

Carried in the affirmative to land at or about Fort St. Peter, but six voices dissenting. Resolved, That the fleet sail privately tomorrow night in order to it.

At a Council of War held before the town of St. Peire in Martineco the 20th April 1693.

Present:

Sir Francis Wheeler, Knt., Rear Admiral, &c.

Captain Wickham.
Captain Heath.
Captain Ward.
Captain Hawkins.
Captain Sherman.
Captain Warren.
Captain Kirk.

The Honble. Colonel Foulkes.
His Excellency Colonel Codrington.
Colonel Lloyd.
Colonel Holt.
Colonel Goodwin.
Colonel Williams.
Colonel Salter.
Colonel Blackstone.
Lieutenant Colonel Lilliston.
Lieutenant Colonel Holt.
Lieutenant Colonel Bishop.
Lieutenant Colonel Hamilton.
Lieutenant Colonel Read.
Major Rabesiner.
Major Abrahel.
Major Hawkins.
Major Pearse.
Major Smith.

Upon a debate arising, whether we should lay a close siege and attack the Town and Fort of St. Peirrs or retire with the forces a ship-board, and there consider further.

It was moved by the President that every man should give in his opinion in writing under his hand, which were given in the 21st."

"At a Council of War held on board Their Majesties ship *Resolution* off of Port St. Pierre in Martineco 22nd April 1693.

Sir Francis Wheeler, Knight, Rear Admiral, &c.

Captain Wickham
Captain Heath.
Captain Ward.
Captain Hawkins.
Captain Dean.
Captain Greenaway.
Captain Kirke.

The Honourable Colonel Foulke.
His Excellency Colonel Codrington.
Colonel Goodwin.
Colonel Blackstone.
Lieutenant Colonel Colt.
Lieutenant Colonel Hamilton.
Major Rabesiner.
Major Byham.
Major Hawkins.

Resolved to sail to Domineco to water and put men in order.

At a Council of War held on board Their Majesties Ship *Resolution* at an anchor under Domineco the 25th April 1693.

Present:

Sir Francis Wheeler, Knight, Rear Admiral &c., attacking.

Captain Wickham, not attacking.
Captain Heath, not attacking.
Captain Ward, the same.
Captain Harman, attacking.
Captain Hawkins, not attacking.
Captain Deane, the same.
Captain Kirk, the same.

The Honourable Colonel Foulke, attacking.
His Excellency Colonel Codrington, not attacking if we have not six weeks time.
Colonel Lloyd, not attacking.
Colonel Goodwin, the same.

Colonel Williams of Antego, the same.
Colonel Salter of Barbados, the same.
Colonel Blackston of Mount Serrat, for attacking.
Lieutenant Colonel Lillingston, not attacking.
Lieutenant Colonel Bishop of Barbados, not attacking.
Lieutenant Colonel Hamilton of Barbados, not attacking.
Lieutenant Colonel Read of Mount Serrat, not attacking.
Major Nott, not attacking.
Major Peers of Barbados, not attacking.
Major Rabisineer, attacking.
Major Abrahel, not attacking.
Major Byham of Antego, not attacking.
Major Smith of Nevis, not attacking.
Engineer Captain Lilly, not attacking.

The question being put, whether we should attack Guardelupe, it passed in the negative, as by the respective officers reasons under their hands as follows, and therefore 'tis resolved that all the Barbados and all the Leeward Island forces return home with convoys.

And that the fleet of men-of-war go down to St. Christophers to water and refresh and take care of the sick seamen and soldiers, that are not a few."

At a Council of War held on board Their Majesties ship *Resolution* under Dominica, 27th April 1693.

Present:

Sir Francis Wheeler, Knight, Rear Admiral &c.

Captain Heath.
Captain Ward.
Captain Hawkins.
Captain Deane.
The Honourable Colonel Foulkes.
His Excellency Colonel Codrington.
Colonel Lloyd.
Colonel Holt.
Lieutenant Colonel Hamilton.
Major Rabesiner.
Major Abrahal.
Lieutenant Colonel Lillingston.
Lieutenant Colonel Holt.
Major Hawkins.

"To leave three months provision for seven hundred men with Colonel Lloyd for the service of his regiment in the Leeward Islands.

To write a letter to the Governor of Barbados to desire his Excellency to send down by the *Tiger* what money the Royal African Company can pay on the letter of credit from Sir Stephen Evance for the service of the three regiments, and that the Governor will please to send down the rest of the blank bills signed by the Commissary Fotherby, and that the sick soldiers and seamen, if recovered, may be sent down in the store ship.

That the Governor be desired to seize all the King's provisions left behind at Barbados, whether it be in Mr. Fotherby's hands or otherwise, and that they together with the provisions now sent up, may be sold at the first market, and that the money or bills together with the money for the bread sold to the islands formerly, may be returned either in specie by the *Tiger*, or bills to Boston in New England, directed to Colonel Foulkes, or the Commander in Chief for the same, being for the service and payment of the King's regiment now going thither, if possible to be brought down by the *Tiger;* Captain Sherman, commander, to desire the Governor to procure all the old lead at Barbados for ball to be sent down to Colonel Codrington, upon his paying for it, the King's magazine not being able to spare any. That all the stores of war left behind may be sent down in the *Canterbury* store ship. *Enclosed with the preceding paper in Sir Francis Wheeler's letter.*

[Edward Harley] to Sir Edward Harley.

[16]93, June 6—The Jacobites have been very industrious to procure a rising among the weavers; yesterday was fixed for it, but the care of the magistrates have prevented it.

Sir C. Musgrave to Robert Harley.

1693, June 8—The cruelty practised at Heidelberg may reasonably strike terror in populous towns. By the prince's account there is ground to believe it was betrayed. It was folly of the governor to put his life upon a court-martial.

If the discovery in Scotland prove right the same frenzy possesses them that inspires the dispersers of King's James' declarations. But Midsummer being at hand these acts are the forerunner.

Sir E. Harley, to Robert Harley, at the Inner Temple.

[16]93, June 9—Tuesday last was a grand funeral at Eye for Madam Newton, sister of Lady Coningsby. On Monday there was a great meeting of Jacobites at Kington Fair.

It would be an effectual expedient to defeat malignant designs and secure the Government, with advantage to the revenue, if many were impressed to employ poor handicrafts in the manufactures of wool and silk. The repayment might be concerted with profit out of the cloth and stuffs so made. If you approve this, propose it to the Lord Keeper and others, capable of promoting it effectually.

I trust the brothers are safe with their father Foley. My service to him and all friends in Essex Street. "It would be great joy to hear the Temple and the Street were reconciled as becomes Christians."

R. H[arley] to [Sir Edward Harley].

1693, June 10—Letters from Scotland say they have committed sixteen persons of some quality for refusing the new oaths. The standing forces are ordered to the westward. I bless God for his preservation of you from robbery.

The Same to the Same.

1693, June 17—Earl Sunderland is returned to town, and setting up to be premier at winter; in order to it driving barters with several. Our

friend is again solicited to meet him. I wish he get clear. It is hard to sit amongst tobacco takers and not carry away the smell, though one smokes not.

The Earl's brother denies being in that bottom, and offers to join upon a square foundation if anything forms. I hope in time by word of mouth to be the relator.

Mr. Ralph Widdrington is newly arrived here from St. Germains. He says King James minds little but hunting, and loves not to talk of England. The late Queen is with child. Penn is not there and no Quaker but one that brews excellent small beer, which is in great request, there being no good wine last vintage. Melfort is still secretary. Middleton has no post. They apprehend themselves not loved in France.

Sir C. Musgarve to Robert Harley.

1693, June 19—By the account the Gazette gave of the governor of Heidelberg's management, I wonder he ever went to the confederate army. "The next week I waite of my wife to see some friends in the adjacent countys, which you may conclude to be a sure sign of old age."

R. Harley to Sir Edward Harley.

[16]93, June 20— I hope God will be gracious to the nation in preserving this rich fleet, but the folly of sending them thus is not to be paralleled with anything but what we have seen done before amongst us.

Mr. Savage, I suppose of Malvern, and his son are both committed to Gloucester gaol by Mr. Freeman of Batsford for the murder of one Heming, a countryman, whom they met in the field as they were riding, and without any provocation ran him through.

[Sir Edward Harley] to [Robert Harley.]

[16]93, June 20—Last week a strange riot was acted at Glasbury Bridge by the appointment of Sir Edward Williams of Gurnevel, cutting and sinking the passage boat ordered by the Quarter sessions for passengers, now the bridge is broken and impassable. Many apprehend "the glavering mischief of one that oft veers his steerage."

The effect "of the scarlet appearances" is proved as surmised and according to former precedent. A few poor wretches fall and the dangerous one escape. "In all these counties there have been itenerant incendaries to prepare against the hoped hour of invasion; the symptoms of it manifest. I beseech the Lord defeat the malignant designs of infatuated persons to enslave and destroy theyr countrey. If the great brother of the spectative Primier would hold to solid cube, it would hugely, by divine blessing, conduce to preservation, specially if the Lord with whom you and I dined would joyn endevors. Our friend ought to be very wary, for debaucheers take hau-goust to aspers chastities they cannot violat." I would much rejoice to hear of a brotherly reconciliation between our two friends.

——— to ———

1693, June 20. On board the *Asia* in Gibraltar Bay—The 30th past about eleven of clock in the morning the royal fleet weighed anchors and sailed from Spithead, under whose convoy ourselves and the several merchantmen bound to several ports also sailed. The wind fair at

E.N.E., handsome weather. About nine in the evening the whole fleet had got the length of the Needles, off of which place were anchored Captain Barret of the *Berkley Castle* and four or five small English ships more, to stop a tide, with whom spoke. They wanted five weeks from the Straits mouth, touched at no port by the way from Alicant, and all along, and saw none of the enemy.

Ditto 31st. At four in the morning the wind at N.N.W., passed by Portland Road; about noon the wind was westerly, and continued so all day, a small gale only.

June 1st. About nine in the morning the wind at N.N.W. handsome weather we had the length of the Start; at noon having reached off Plymouth; that day towards evening, all the ships that were there came out and joined us; and all night the wind proved from the N.N.W. to the N.N.E., good weather.

2nd. About eight this morning being off of Falmouth, fine weather, the wind at N. all the merchantmen that were in this port came out and joined us, and then we judge the whole fleet together consisted of five hundred sail. The 3rd nothing remarkable.

4th. This morning the general made the signal for leaving us, by the hoisting up a blue flag at the foretopmast head, and firing of five guns, which being answered by Sir G. Rooke, we thus parted, and yesterday the East and West Indiamen &c left us.

7th. The royal fleet having wholly left us, Sir G. R. hoisted his union flag at main topmast head, and the winds having proved small and contrary since the 4th instant.

11th. About twelve of clock last night the wind came up very fresh and fair at N.W. and continued so the 12th, 13th, 14th, and 15th, when at eight of clock this morning we had the length of the Burlings. At noon by observation we had the latitude of 39·40, the wind fair at N.N.W. and handsome weather.

16th. This morning at eight from topmast head we made Cape Roxent bearing N.E. by E. distant about eighteen leagues. At noon being in the latitude of 31·41, we hauled in for the shore. In the afternoon the *Chatham* and three or four other scouts of ours made the signals for more ships than our fleet, and at three of clock Sir G. R. lay by for the sternmost ships to come up. About six the *Lark*, *Chatham* and scouts gave the flag an accompt of what they had seen, and our men at topmast head saw five sail great ships, and from that time guns went off all night between whiles from the enemy's scouts, to give their fleet notice. Our flag and all the fleet lay by till eight and than bore away with a fresh gale at N. by W. About ten of clock we were about Cape St. Vincent hauling in close upon a wind, of which being but little all night.

17th. Between three and four this morning very little wind we passed by several great buoys fair into Lagos bay, out of which place the enemy cut loose, and a little after four of clock, one of their fire-ships having a great many men ashore and for that reason lagging behind,

our Admiral firing some chase guns at her, and being pursued by the *Lark*, together with the brigantine Captain Peacock, she presently struck to the *Lark*. Some time after I went aboard said prize where found Captain Fairbone examining several of the ordinary prisoners—for the captain and chief officers were carried aboard Sir G. R. I examined also several myself one by one, who told me that they had in their fleet Messrs. Tourville, Nesmond and Gabaret with about fifty or sixty sail, merchantmen, store ships, and victuallers, which as said prisoners told him the aforesaid Commanders were convoying to Marseilles and Thoulon, having as some said, but twelve, others fifteen, others sixteen or seventeen, and one twenty-five men [of] war, all of them small ships; all of which put together proved but a very imperfect accompt, which is not to be attributed to the ignorance of the French mariners but to their cunning and faithfulness to their country, to encourage us to pursue their seemingly flying fleet. Within half an hour after, our boats pursuing a great French fly-boat, the men forsook her, and betook themselves to their boats. The *Monck's* and *Monmouth's* boats adventured aboard, thinking to put out the fire, and to get purchase, but she presently blew up, and I presume the men, most of them perished, for she sunk in a moment. A little after five of clock, two more of the enemy's ships that were laggers astern were set on fire by themselves, and the men going aboard two of their great ships, that were within less than three miles of us, being calmed, viewing us so that made our strength all this while, whilst in the mean all the rest of their men-of-war and fleet lay to S.E. of us as far as [we] could see them. The prisoners also told me that they came out of Brest some days one after another, that is in small squadrons, the first whereof which was Gabarets, was 22nd May O.S. and the rest within three or four days after. At nine of clock a small sea breeze sprang up, and two more of the enemy's ships were fired by themselves, the men whereof also run aboard the aforesaid two great men of war, who after that made all the sail they could from us to join their fleet, making but little sail to receive them, which by the sequel you'll readily judge, they did all on purpose to decoy us, and draw our fleet after them, which all our flags, and men of war very imprudently doing, we were constrained to follow them. At ten of clock 'twas a handsome gale, and about noon off of Cape St. Mary's having drawn us up into a line of battle—our ship being one, and five or six more of the Turkey ships—our whole strength was immediately discovered, being by two of clock pretty near them, for they then stayed to leeward for our coming down to them. But all this while we could not have any manner of certain information of theirs, but by three in the afternoon Sir G. R. and everybody of us dis-

covered easily that they were very much superior to us, they composing a line of twenty-six stout men of war, whereof I am very certain, being so near, four or five at least were ships of three decks, and about fourteen or fifteen of them were ships of seventy guns and upwards, the rest could not be less than ships of fifty guns to sixty; in fine, they were all great ships. Besides we could perceive that several others of their ships were plying to windward from their fleet of merchantmen, store ships, and victuallers, who stood in with the shore—for altogether they made above a hundred and twenty sail—which we had a great deal of reason to fear were also men of war. They had an Admiral and Vice-Admiral of the Blue, and three Cornets or Rear Admirals with swallow tail white flags. So that [we] conjecture they had the greatest part of their strength from Brest. Thus being so much over matched—all merchantmen out of the line kept fair in with the shore to windward us—Sir G. R. and all the line hauled close upon a wind which was then at N.W. and stood off W.S.W., starboard tacks aboard, the Dutch leading the van, Sir G. R. and his division in the middle, and Rear Admiral Hobson with his, bring up the rear. Thus jogging on a little while, the French to leeward of us appearing very formidable, our three flags between five and six had taken in their line of battle signals, crowding away, and three or four of the Dutch, whereof one a man of war, not being able to hold their wind, as we held ours, were something to leeward, so that the fury of a great green quartered French man of war, and their Admiral and Vice Admiral of the Blue first lit upon them, and forced them to tack. Several of our ships were constrained to do the like. The *Asia* to admiration kept an excellent wind, and her station following our flags, who with all the sail they could make, without regard to the merchantmen, stood to sea and run, the enemy a little to leeward of us pursuing, and most of them sailing better than we, being clean ships. However we kept jogging on with them till between nine and ten of clock, but perceiving then the eminent danger we were in of falling into the enemy's hands, the next morning having two or three hours before consulted with Captain Hazlewood about the contriving for our security by the favour of the night, a fair wind, and a brisk gale, the proposal being approved by the rest of the passengers, and by them also seconded and urged, Captain Hazlewood called and consulted all his officers, everyone of them giving his opinion that there was a great probability of our escaping, if we bore up, by the favour of the night and a fair wind. In the main we unanimously agreed, and having first well weighed and considered all the difficulties and hazards that might attend our bearing up, at length having taken a firm resolution to do so, and a favourable opportunity of part of the enemy's ships being sailed ahead of us, the greatest part a good way astern having tacked

also after us, at ten of clock we put away before the wind, which was then at N.N.W. steering away south till four of clock the 18th in the morning; and last night the *Chandois* being near us, and in the same consternation followed us. From four of clock till two in the afternoon we steered away E.S.E., then E. at noon finding ourselves in the latitude of Cape Spartel, the *Loyalty* being to windward of us all this day, perceiving we made for said Cape, put out her colours, which we answering with ours, bore up and joined us in the evening, so that we are now *Asia*, *Chandois*, and *Loyalty* together, and all three anchored in this bay of Gibraltar. Last night a little after ten of clock Captain Phenny of the *Italian Merchant* being got in just before us, and this morning about ten of clock the *Success* ketch of London, Captain Andrew Hawkes, bound for Malaga, and also one of our fleet, anchored here, he bearing away also the 17th at nine of clock at night with the *Smyrna Factor* and about eighteen sail more, who he saw all go into Cadiz yesterday morning at break of day, and affirms that the *Reward* was one of them, and another with a blue stern, which we hope to be the *Rebecca*. This is in haste by an express on purpose to Cadiz recommended to Messrs. Hodges and Haynes, which pray communicate to our friends. *Copy.*

[The Same] to [the Same.]

1693, June 22. Gibraltar—Express upon express brings the news from Cadiz that the French fleet are before that place very formidable, that eighteen of our dispersed ships were got into Cadiz before them and fourteen at St. Lucar. The Toulon squadron have some time since possessed themselves of Rosas in Catalonia, and all along the coast of Spain, the Spaniards are in very great consternation, and particulatly here where is no safety for the Levant Company's estates. Therefore we have unanimously resolved for the security thereof, to get immediately under sail to proceed on our voyage, the wind being fair. *Copy. On the same sheet as the preceding.*

[The Same] to [the Same.]

1693, June 24. On board the Asia in the Mole of Gibraltar—After the *Asia* and *Loyalty* were got under sail the 22nd in the evening the wind failed us, and afterwards proved calm. Moreover, when it came to the push the *Chandois* and *Italian Merchants* men grew mutinous, and would not proceed. Whereupon came on board us all their passengers, who with many arguments and threatenings of protest, Captains Hazlewood and Betton, and the men of both, being discouraged from attempting to adventure out, but more especially the great fear of calms, and contrary winds, obliged us to anchor all night in the bay, being too late to return into the Mole, so that being thus prevented, the 23rd in the morning we came to a resolution of coming again into the Mole where we now are, all four close together. And this day the 23rd came in several couriers from Cadiz of the 1st July n.s. that contained the following particulars, that Tourville had sent ashore a great many prisoners Dutch and English, the major part being of the former, and few of the latter.

'Twas believed that a great part of our ships had escaped, they hearing nothing of the rest of our Turkey ships nor of our men-of-war. That Tourville had demanded of the Governor of Cadiz to deliver up to him all the English and Dutch ships that were at Puntall, promising upon his honour, if he did, that he would not bombard the place. To which the Governor gave him an absolute denial, and bid him do the worst he could, and in expectation thereof the Spaniards have sent all their women and children to St. Mary Port. That about twenty of their men-of-war were detached under a red flag, which, though some imagine they are gone up the Straits, yet 'tis not known certainly where they are gone, the rest of their fleet is reported by the French to be in sight of Cadiz, though from the town they cannot see them. This day 23rd in the morning the English consul here, Mr. Robert Wilson, at our joint request, drew up in Spanish several heads to crave this Governor's best protection and assistance for the defence of our ships, and preservation of your and of all our friends estates, which he promised to underwrite, and give us his utmost assistance not only in person, but would likewise command all his officers to do the like. So that all this afternoon we have been employed in the getting all things in a readiness to prepare for a good boom at the Mole head, and design also to have some of our spare guns ashore to be plied by our men in case we should be attacked, resolving to defend ourselves to the utmost, provided all or the greatest part of the French do not attack us, which if they do, we cannot expect to be in a capacity to defend ourselves against. And therefore if it prove so that we cannot, we resolve to sink or burn them, rather than they should fall into the enemy's hands. The 23rd at twelve of clock at night some few hours since came back the express we sent to Cadiz the 20th current, bringing us letters to the 2nd July n.s. acquainting us that the *Rebecca*, Captain Morris was stranded and burnt by the enemy. Whereupon we have wrote to Messrs Hodges and Haynes to write unto our friends concerned in her, and given them their respective marks in case there should be any salvage. I crave leave to refer unto their more particular advices at Cadiz. *Copy. On the same sheet as the preceding.*

R. H[arley] to Sir Edward Harley.

1693, June 24—On Tuesday Lord Bellamont and Colonel Hamilton, a gentleman of fair reputation and 2,000*l* a year estate, entered a *caveat* in Lord Nottingham's office, against passing the pardon to Lord Coningsby and Sir Charles Porter. Mr. Warr told them it was a very unusual thing, and Colonel Hamilton replied it was very unusual for men who had destroyed a kingdom to have pardons granted them. Being apprehensive they had not done enough, on Thursday they delivered a petition at the Council, which being read, they were ordered to sign it and the Secretary is to lay it before the Queen.

The fleet is come into Torbay. Sir John Ashly died last week and Captain Cotton. The meaning of the fleet's return I know not, want of beer is pretended.

The town is full of fear for the Turkey fleet. The admirals at sea and our governors on land give different accounts of the course Rooke would steer.

E. H[arley] to Sir Edward Harley.

[16]93, June 24—"I am ashured by some very understanding persons that the new design of making salt peter will take effect according to what has been proposed, which it is to make three tun per week;

which if done must prove of vast advantage. The onley material made use off being the laystuffe where man's dung has been thrown. I would humbly propose that the money in Mr. Foley's hand might be employed to buy some shares in it, there being more than a probability of a very great advantage without an hasard. The shares are now at seventy a share. It is thought that as soon as they begin to work they will rise to one hundred."

——— to Sir Edward Harley.

1693, June 26. Worcester—One Metcalf, a stranger, has been seized here and treasonable papers found upon him. Mr. Bearcroft thinks he smells Alderman Haynes in the matter. It is observed he has taken his horse and gone out of town to-day, but his friends say he is gone to Sir Henry Littleton's funeral. *Torn.*

R. H[arley] to Sir Edward Harley.

1693, June 27—Giving news of the movements of the French fleet.

Lord Eland to [Robert] Harley.

1693, June 28. Bath—We are in some impatience as well as the merchants to hear what is become of Admiral Rooke, and are the more so now we hear our fleet are returned. The sea is so wide and chance has been so partial to us that I hope it will not submit upon this extremity to any conduct of the French. I wish there was any news here that I might pay you in the same coin. The Bath produces nothing new but intrigues, the reading of which will not become the gravity of a Commissioner of Accounts, and especially so modest a one as yourself.

R. Harley to Sir Edward Harley.

1693, July 1—One Mr. Praed and a sea-captain have accused Anselm, secretary to Killigrew and the other two admirals, of offering them commissions from the late King.

The Same to the Same.

1693, July 4—Concerning proposals which had been made for his marriage with Lady Roberts, widow of Sir Thomas Roberts.

Sir C. Musgrave to Robert Harley.

[1693], July (June) 8—"The intervall of priviledg hath discovered the advantage some reaped by it, and wonder the lawyers will give protection to any that lessen their trade. I am no sufferer by it for I think no money so well expended as the postage of your letters."

"The mystery of war in haveinge the last loaf, our ancestors understood. I wish we may have the last penny. I perceive my Lord Bellamont is dissatisfied with the administration of Lord Coninsby and Sir Charles Porter, which necessarily proceeds from his being uneasy at the loss of his employ, and great graines of allowance are to be given loosers. I hope their will be no occasion for raising men in Scotland, I am sure their will be for the money. It is said they levy a yeares rent of those that reffuse the new oath. If the number of non-swearers should be great that will raise a considerable sume. They have hitherto contributed little to the warr and it will be neighbourly to ease us."

ROBERT HARLEY to SIR E. HARLEY.

1693, July 8—My sister and aunt have arrived without disaster. This week the roads have been pestered with rogues. The Duchess of Ormond was robbed going to Tunbridge, and several persons have been wounded on that road by them.

The SAME to [the SAME.]

1693, July 11—Enclosing a copy of Sir Francis Wheler's journal.

The SAME to [the SAME.]

1693, July 14—The Cabinet, it is said, sent to advise the King to call a new Parliament, but whether this late sad disaster will change that resolution is not known. The merchants bear it with great temper. It would seem as if nothing less than such a severe blow was sufficient to rouse this nation out of its sloth. Whether these ships that are lost are Turkey ships, is uncertain.

SIR CHRISTOPHER MUSGRAVE to ROBERT HARLEY.

1693, July 18. Coleby—Yesterday at Sir William Ellis' palace you were most heartily remembered. He lives like a prince. The abstract you provide us with is most melancholy. God grant a better account may come from our Turkey fleet. The fault could not be want of money, but cannot think our admirals wholly excusable.

E. H[ARLEY] to SIR EDWARD HARLEY.

[16]93, July 15—Mr. Foley is so fixed in his rage against Essex Street that he sticks not to charge all the misfortunes of the nation there.

Yesterday's post brought the news that the Turkey fleet had fallen into the snare which had so long been prepared for them.

R. H[ARLEY] to SIR EDWARD HARLEY.

1693, July 18—The Gazette omits very few particulars of Rooke's letters, but the merchants have letters from all parts, and though the loss will be great it is much better than the loss of all.

My brother is sent down to Pusey to see the lady, though that is kept a great secret.

The EARL OF STAMFORD to ROBERT HARLEY.

1693, July 19. Broadgate—I am obliged for your letter, which, although it brought very afflicting news yet I had a fresh instance of your friendship by your communicating your affliction to me for that fatal stroke to this government which I heartily lament and join with your mourning. If it would stop here and not be worse before it is better or that some eyes would be opened before it be too late I should have some comfort.

R. HARLEY to SIR EDWARD HARLEY.

1693, July 22—My last gave an account of the preservation of the Turkey fleet. We have not yet heard where the French are, or whether they will attempt against Cadiz and Gibraltar. I hope God will preserve the ships there.

E. H[arley] to Sir Edward Harley.

[16]93, July 22—All the foreign letters exclaim against the Ministers of the English Court and do not stick to impute all these miscarriages to their treacherous management.

Lord Coningsby came to town with Lord Sidney. It is said the Queen would not permit him to kiss her hands, though often pressed to it by Lord Sidney.

R. H[arley] to Sir Edward Harley.

1693, July 25—Giving naval and Flemish news.

C[harlwood] L[awton] to Secretary Trenchard.

1693, July 26—A long letter on behalf of Mr. Penn. *Copy.*

R. H[arley] to Sir Edward Harley.

1693, July 27—Giving details of fighting in Flanders.

E. H[arley] to Sir Edward Harley.

[16]93, July 27—Giving further details of the fighting in Flanders.

Sir Thomas Littleton to [Robert Harley].

[16]93, July 27—Informing him that his demand had been laid before the Board and that they were willing to return to Sir Edward Harley a lesser number of new arms in place of the old ones which had been originally seized. *Copy. On the same sheet is a copy of letter from Robert Harley to Sir Thomas Littleton dated August 2nd, declining his offer.*

The Earl of Stamford to Robert Harley.

1693, July 29, Broadgate—I cannot but own the great wisdom of our ancestors when they framed this government when I reflect how unsuccessful all later times have been, the more they have differed from the former methods, and what judgments have befallen this nation through the debasements of their progeny. But among all their bequests that which I must mention as being one of the last remains of their true policy was that of choosing all the officers of the kingdom in Parliament, which, though I always admired, yet I must own a fresh instance of truth is a revival of spirits, as it is in me to see so much charity in you towards me, a late instance of which was your last letter. I believe if it is not it quickly will be a demonstration that what Samuel said is past contradiction and that even Esop is no liar.

R. H[arley] to Sir Edward Harley.

1693, July 29—Mr. Charles Blunt younger son of Sir Henry, shot himself this morning in the belly, "occasioned by love to a lady that was his relation, I think his late wife's sister, a widdow of forty-four."

The Same to [the Same].

[16]93, [July ?]—Giving intelligence of the fleet.

1693, August 3 n.s. Paris — The Marshal de Luxemberg being willing to take advantage of the weakness of the enemies army by the detachment of 15,000 to force our lines, whereof for that end the entry was facilitated to them, and also by sending 10,000 to strengthen the garrison of Liege, thereupon writes to the King, and earnestly desired His Majesty that he would permit him to give the enemy battle in such place and manner as he should find convenient, giving him assurance of an entire defeat.

Upon this advice about eight days since, the King sent him order to act therein according to such occurrences as should arise to his discretion.

Hereupon he caused a rumour to be spread that he intended to force the lines at Liege; and to give belief herein called a council of war, wherein he proposed that design, which all the general officers present opposed. But the Marshal not well approving their advice, and that the spies, if any were present, might be deceived said aloud, that he had express orders from the King to execute this design, and he would do it, and thereupon gave order that 50,000 faggots should be prepared for that service, and on the 26th and 27th of the last month sent to view the place. But the day after, everyone was surprised to see, that instead of drawing his army that way, he on a sudden marched with it towards the enemies camp with hopes to surprize them; and though his march was discovered to them by their advanced guards they would give no credit to it till by nine hours continued march without the noise of drum or trumpet, they discovered about five in the evening the front of our army, which had gained all the avenues to the village of Wingres, where the enemy had the head quarter of their army, having a wood upon their right wing, and marshy ground upon the left, and the river of Jarr behind them, with many palisades which surrounded their camp on both sides, and they had broken all the bridges upon the river.

The Marshal was busied all night to put his army into battle array and to find out the most convenient place to make his attack, and to give out the necessary orders to all the troops and officers of his army, while the enemy in the meantime employed all their time to make an entrenchment which reached from the wood to the village, with other works made up of the broken walls of the houses, and certain trees which they had interlined with them at the head of the village where they had placed sixty pieces of cannon guarded by eight battalions of English on their right and left to flank all those entrenchments, which at break of day on the 29th seemed to our view to be inaccessible though they had but a small time to do it.

The two armies thus passing the night so near to one another, and Marshal Luxemburg finding himself engaged in honour and glory to prosecute his purpose forthwith gave order to Monsieur Montchevervile, a lieutenant general, and Governor of Arras, to force the village, who led on our troops with all possible vigour, but after many vain attempts the cannon of the enemy fired so fiercely upon them, that the Lieutenant General was killed, and thereupon there was such a fear among the soldiers that they were in much disorder. But Monsieur Luxemburg immediately caused twenty four battalions to march to their succour commanded by the Duke of "Rochsuryon," and Monsieur Joyeuse who penetrated so far that they became masters of the principal posts of the place, but at the same time they were charged with so great a detachment of the enemies, that they were constrained to quit all they had gained with great slaughter. At last the Marshal of Luxemburg despairing of his enterprise, caused twenty four other

battalions composed of the French and Swiss guards, and sustained by the troop of the King's household, and the brigades of Surlaube and Renald under the command of the Prince of Conti to renew the attack, to whom he said, that the glory of the King in that action would depend upon his courage. The Prince hereupon very boldly advanced, but had not foot enough for so great a service; nevertheless having attacked the enemy with all imaginable valour he beat them from their retrenchment, though with great difficulty, after having been twice repulsed, and then the troop of the King's household came on and passed the ditch, which was filled with faggots for that purpose, and then ranged themselves in battle as well as they could, their impatience not suffering them to stay till the line was perfected; and they presently charged the cuirassiers of the Elector of Bavaria, who so valiantly received them, that those very troops of the household gave way twice and were forced to rally behind the brigade of Surlaube; but a while after they charged a third time, and Monsieur de Lignery who led them on was killed. In the meantime the Duke of Chartres with the horse came very luckily up to sustain our men, and did it with so much resolution, that they removed all obstacles, posting over the bellies of the enemy's army.

The Prince of Orange in this extremity made the body of his army pass the river of Jarr with so much conduct and prudence that we could not but admire it, and having broken all the bridges by which they passed we remained upon the place. There were not above 15,000 of the enemy that engaged 40,000 of ours, the rest of the army being drawn up in battle in view of ours. After the last impression we quickly became masters of their camp, where we took sixty pieces of cannon, and defeated eight battalions of English which guarded them. We had no baggage here, having sent it the night before to Namur. The enemy never showed greater courage than in this day's action. Monsieur Luxemberg writ to the King at eight in the evening of the 29th in the Prince of Orange's tent a moment after the action was past and sent Monsieur d'Artagnan to the King with the news, who upon the receipt thereof, gave him in recompense the government of Arras, vacant by the death of Lieutenant General Montchevervile. Though it be true that we remained masters of the field, it cannot be denied but we lost more men than the enemy, and particularly more officers. It is said that there were 14,000 slain on both sides, but it is believed there must be more lost, considering the great length of time wherein the battle continued, and the vigour used in the attacks.

[Robert Harley] to Sir Edward Harley.

1693, August 3—This day the Earl of Bellamont delivered his reasons in writing to the Council against passing Lord Coningsby's pardon; chiefly insisting that Parliament had entered upon the examination of these matters and that they were resolved to impeach him in Parliament.

The Same to the Same.

1693, August 12—The merchants are in hopes to save a considerable part of their goods in those four ships at Gibraltar only the upper work being burned, they having sunk them to prevent the French burning or taking them, so that their goods will not be all lost unless the French return again.

The Same to the Same.

1693, August 15—Giving foreign intelligence.

The Same to the Same.

1693, August 19—Lord Coningsby's petition is dismissed the Council.

Mr. Charles Turner going out to shoot in Essex on Sunday, his boy who carried his master's gun, by accident shot him in the back. He lived not two hours.

[The Same] to the Same.

1693, August 22—Giving naval intelligence.

——— to ———.

1693, August 24. Malaga—"Sunday the 19 July in the morning some of the French fleet appeared, and that afternoon about eighty sail was seen that night, and Monday morning a great many came to anchor within gunshot of the town; eight ships came nearer in and lay in a line broadsides to the town. One was a three deck ship and the rest sixty and seventy guns. About twenty boats came off at once, manned and armed. They had defence made that small shot could not hurt them. They came and lay between the ships and shore, and a boat unarmed with a flag of truce came to the shore and asked for the Governor, who came down. A compliment was made him from Monsieur Tourville, that there was the French fleet, and if he could serve him in anything, that they had no design against the town, but to destroy the English and Dutch ships, and if he defended them he would then bombard the town, and protested to be for the Governor's account all the damage that should be to the city, for that he would destroy the English and Dutch ships, although [he] should put a thousand men in each. The Governor bid him do what he pleased for he must defend them. All day Monday the French boats remained manned, and that night about ten of clock they came towards the ships in the Mould, and were beat off by their guns, and sixteen of the ships guns they had planted along the Mould. Tuesday by break of day the boats attempted to come again to the Mould, and were beaten back as before. About two of clock, whilst the boats lay round the three deck ship from which they took their orders, the ships and sixteen guns fired briskly, and immediately the French hoisted a red flag and fired very furious till about nine, during which time the town fired what they could. About seven a fire-ship and the boats came in, burnt the Dutch ships in the Mould, and towed off the *Union* frigate, who had eight foot water in her hold, but would not sink being laden with oil. The boats came all along the shore from the Playa to Sn. Andres lay all the saetias and gavarras that had hauled out the Mold. The French spied the *William and James* pink that was bound to Allicant and burnt her, and a Spanish saetia that fired at the boats, and they might have destroyed all the rest of the saetias and gavarras, but they meddled with no other. The *Martin* brigantine, a small ketch, and a small gallego ship which lay amongst the saetias with their topmast down and yards and sails ashore, escaped. Wednesday morning Tourville sent a boat to the shore and cause our Governor in return to his compliment Monday told him he esteemed his offer, and if he wanted any refreshment from the shore he should have it, and accepting the Governor's offer, desired him to send him a hundred and fifty oxen and five hundred sheep, and for them he would send boats only with four men in a boat, and pretended that if the town received damage by the shot the day before, was sorry, for they would not have fired at the town had they not endeavoured to defend the ships. That evening the Governor sent off fifty oxen, two hundred sheep, twelve calves,

sallating, sweetmeats, and wine of several sorts. Tourville accepted but the oxen and the sheep, which he desired was for his money and no otherwise. Several ships have come to the fleet Monday and Tuesday, and this morning about thirty sail with two pontoons, some Danes and Swedes, which I judge to be those that were at Gibraltar. They are now in all about a hundred and fifty sail, amongst which as near as I can guess may be eighty men-of-war of which fourteen are three deck ships. Tourville gives out [they] have ninety men-of-war and thirty fire-ships, the rest small frigates and tenders. He told him that went off with the present aboard, that if anybody had a mind to come off and see the fleet, they might come with the same freedom as aboard the Spanish Armada. He said [he] heard the English and Dutch reported that his King could not put out a fleet this year, but they may see to the contrary, and next year would be added twenty new ships to it, and that they had likewise reported he came running away from Brest. He seemed very angry with us and the Dutch. Thursday the Conde D'Estree sent a boat ashore, and desired might have leave to buy some salletting and snow which was granted him. Tourville expected to have the hundred and fifty oxen and five hundred sheep he first desired, and sent another message, at least desired, might be in all a hundred oxen and five hundred sheep, but by no means would have it, but for his money. There was several debates whether it should be sent or not. At last 'twas resolved it should be complied a hundred oxen and five hundred sheep, in which the Church pressed hard to reduce the Governor to it. Friday little passed, Saturday 25th. This day we find above twenty ships less in the fleet than was yesterday, which way are gone cannot tell. The wind all last night was fresh easterly, and is so now. Sunday 26th. They got all under sail and stood to the eastward with little wind. There was eighteen Frenchmen killed and fifty wounded as they give out; but it is believed more. Mr. FitzJames was wounded slightly in the thigh. There was fifty boats when they came in to burn the ships." *Copy.*

[Robert Harley] to Sir Edward Harley.

1693, August 26—Giving foreign intelligence.

The Same to the Same.

1693, August 29—I intend to come out of town by the Worcester coach on Monday. I wrote to my brother about my saddle. I desired him not to let it be known what day I intended to come down.

The Same to the Same.

1693, August 31—Lady Strickland, governess to the Prince of Wales has a pass to come to England from St. Germains. There is a great quarrel in that family fomented as is said by the French King.

Sir C. Musgrave to Robert Harley.

1693, August 31—If my Lord Marlborough came in to a play it is strange. It seems new schemes are preparing against winter; if they will remain in a quiet and peaceable state we shall be much obliged to them. If the admirals had notice in May of the French fleet being come out of Brest I cannot applaud their conduct.

The Earl of Bellamont to his cousin, Robert Harley, at Westminster.

[16]93, September 1—" I shall be glad to know what you and other people thinke of our last petition to Her Majesty in Councell, to have leave to resort to the Councell bookes in Ireland and to the severall offices of record there to furnish ourselves from thence with matter of further accusation against Porter and Coningsby, and likewise what is said of the discountenance our petition met with, I mean our having noe manner of answer made to it."

I believe you will scarce visit the country this year; the ways are deep and London universally thought the best winter seat in England.

Robert Harley to Sir E. Harley.

1693, September 2—The Turkey merchants make great complaint against two or three other traders who have bought 30,000*l.* worth of silk in Holland and think to send it here, having begged the Queen's share of the forfeiture for bringing it over. I hope the things by the carrier arrived safe. If the sturgeon has lost its pickle it must be filled up with stale beer, nothing else, without salt or anything.

H. Boyle to [Robert Harley].

1693, September 6. Gloucester—I am now upon my journey to Ireland but hope to return soon. I suppose it will not be long before we know what our great statesmen have agreed upon at Althorp. I am sure my Lord Capel is too wise to tell me, if he knows, so that I must have patience. I need not go to Ireland to be very desirous to hear from you.

Robert Harley to Sir E. Harley.

[16]93, September 7. Whitley—On private affairs.

George Follet to Robert Harley, at Brampton.

1693, September 7—From the camp of St. Quintin's, Linnich. The distribution of the winter quarters for the forces being made, and some of the relays that are to attend the King in the road to Loo being gone that way, it is expected His Majesty will soon leave the camp. The Duke of Holstein Ploen came to the camp on Friday, as my Lord Sidney did yesterday morning.

The French have summoned a great number of pioneers in the province of Hainault and parts adjacent which gives some thoughts of the design they may have against Charleroi. They continue still at Soignies.

The Prince of Nassau Sarbrook is gone from the camp upon the arrival of the Duke of Holstein Ploen by reason of the competition.

1693, September 14 n.s.—From the camp at St. Quintin's, Linnich. The French have now invested Charleroi, and it is not doubted but they intend to besiege it. They were to break ground to-day, and they have already begun to raise ther batteries.

It was given out in orders on Saturday night to obey the Duke of Holstein Ploen in the manner as they did the late Prince Waldeck.

The differences between the King of Denmark and the House of Luneburg, about the fortifications at Ratzburg, are in a fair way of accommodation, whereupon the Danish troops will withdraw out of the country of Saxe Lauenburg. Sir William Dutton Colt, His Majesty's envoy extraordinary to the House of Luneburg and Elector of Saxony is lately dead at Heilbronn of the flux contracted in the Imperial camp.

We had advice last night that the recruits from England were come safe to Williamstadt.

The great rains and cold weather we have had these two or three days is very inconvenient to the army.

Sir Samuel Barnardiston came to town yesterday, and Sir Thomas Clarges came to-day. We want now only yourself in town, which God send in good time. I have given a copy of a paper your Honour left with me to Mr. Hewer, and on Wednesday I met with him at Mr. Pepys thereupon. I am glad I have heard you say you can read the worst hands.

E. Harley to Robert Harley, at Brampton.

1693, September 16. London—There is nothing considerable this post, which last night brought two packets from Holland, save only what Mr. Blaythwaite writes dated September 21st. The French opened their trenches before Charleroi on the 16th. and have made several attacks, wherein they have been repulsed, and a sally hath been made from the town with good success, the French having lost a great many men in it without doing yet anything considerable against the town, but as the besieged are not to expect any relief we cannot hope that they will hold out long. The detachment to the number of 20,000 men sent towards Dixmunde and Furnes finding the country under water are returned to the army, and the forces sent for from the garrisons are returned thither again on that account.

Since you went the victuallers have brought in the account we sent for, which we are examining and hereafter may acquaint you with our observations thereon. *Copy.*

Francis Gwyn to Robert Harley, at the Inner Temple.

1693, September 26. Ford Abbey—My wife this morning brought me another brave boy and both are very well. You are the father of children and therefore can give grains of allowance to those who trouble their friends with news of this kind "but if one should write such a letter as this to Harry Boyl or such rake hells, they would wonder what was the satisfaction a man could take in things of this sort."

[Abigail Harley] to [Martha] Harley, in King Street.

1693, October 7—"Monday my Lord Coningsby honoured us with his company, came here about ten o'clock stayed till three, was very merry and complaisant. That day my brother Harley went to Radnor where God's merciful goodness to us all should never be forgotten. He going into the town upon some business had nobody with him but Mr. Ketleby, as he returned to the place where they dined was set upon by the two Lewis's of Harton with drawn swords, put by several passes with his cane before he could draw his sword, at last did and through God's mercy defended himself till company came in. They made about thirty passes at him. One present told me he might several times have killed either of them, but it never will be a grief of heart that he has not

avenged, himself. He had with him Mr. Pennie, J. Child, J. Ed, Francis Prosser, but they watched their time when almost alone. There is no doubt it was a contrivance to murder him, a gentleman at Presteign on Thursday said he could prove it."

THOMAS FOLEY to SIR EDWARD HARLEY.

1693, October 7. Essex Street—Sending foreign news.

R. H[ARLEY] to SIR EDWARD HARLEY.

1693, October 11. The Talbot, at the Cross in Worcester—Most of the clergymen here had given notice of the fast on the Lord's Day, but the Bishop has since forbidden it.

A. B—— to ROBERT HARLEY.

1693, October 14—Giving foreign intelligence, especially of the fighting in Savoy and Piedmont.

[ROBERT HARLEY] to SIR EDWARD HARLEY.

1693, October 14. Inner Temple—On Thursday I left Worcester in the Bridgenorth coach. The company included Mr. Ellis, a Catholic, but married to a Protestant, and another man, I suppose in orders. About ten or twelve coaches kept together from Uxbridge for fear of thieves. My good aunt is weak. I found Mr. Beverley "repeating" to her.

The MARQUIS OF HALIFAX to [ROBERT] HARLEY.

1693, October 15—I make haste to congratulate your return to town. "I am now little lesse impatient than a lover would be to meet his mistress" therefore let me know whether you can come to my lodging at Whitehall, or if you had rather, at Somerset house.

The SAME to the SAME.

[1693, October 16.] Monday—Will you give me leave to make two propositions, one is that you would come to my house at two o'clock, from whence we will go to Acton for two or three hours and return to a piece of mutton. If you cannot comply with that my next proposal is that you would call upon me at Somerset House as you come from York Buildings.

[ROBERT HARLEY] to SIR EDWARD HARLEY.

1693, October 17—I have provided a coach and six horses for you. It will hold six. They went away to-day and carry some garden seeds my sister Abigail wanted. He is to have 1*l.* 15*s.* for every day he travels; nothing for Lord's Day and 15*s.* for everyday he lies still.

——— to SIR EDWARD HARLEY, at Brampton.

1693, October 17. London—"It was omitted in my last that on Friday night arrived at Spithead Sir Francis Wheler in the *Resolution* with three other men-of-war, two fire-ships, and two merchant ships hired

into their master's service. There came in company with them nine merchant ships until near the Lands End where by stormy weather they were separated.

Sir Francis came last from Newfoundland where, when they came, they found themselves not strong enough to attack the French in harbour and their forts the enemy having increased their guns until forty and erected two new forts at Placenicia, so they only destroyed the island of St. Pedro and come away. The mortality hath been so great in the West Indies amongst them that there is not of the three regiments that went six hundred come back.

Plymouth the 12th. Yesterday came in the *Dunkirk* frigate of Sir Francis Wheeler's squadron; the commander says he was separated from him three hundred leagues from the Lizard.

Also the ship *America* of this town from Messina but last from Mallaga, which place they left twenty days since The commander says before his departure came an express in four days from Barcellona who advised that the French fleet were then off that place and consisted of seventy sail sailing down with a strong Levant wind, and had since their being in the Straits lost by death and put sick on shore above 9,000 men.

That our two men-of-war were gone from Gibraltar for Cadiz, that the *Shandois* was ready to sail.

This day arrived the *Royal Hudson Bay* frigate of London, Michell Grimmington commander two hundred tons, thirty-two guns, sixty-seven men, laden with furs &c. They say we have beaten the French quite out from the trade of that place. On Saturday lay windbound at Cowes many coasters bound for Exton, Plymouth, Falmouth &c. under the convoy of the *Hampshire* frigate, also some Dutch bound to the Straits. The same day came in the *Spanish Expedition* packet boat.

Dublin, October the 7th. On the 2nd and 3rd instant arrived at Kingsale the *Hopewell* of and for London from Antego, Thomas Foster, master, a hundred tons, laden with sugar, tobacco, and cotton, &c. The *Goodwill* of and for London, John Louis, master, from Barbadoes, fifty tons, with sugar and cotton. The *Endeavour* of and for Bristoll from Nevis with sugar and cotton, John Helton, master, thirty-five tons.

Edinburgh the 10th. This morning died here the Lord Castlehill. On the 12th the Duchess of Gordon sets forward for Whitehall, and will be followed by Sir James Stewart the King's Advocate, and Sir James Ogleby the Solicitor General.

Yesterday the Lord of the Justiciary sat and arraigned the three persons who came out of the Bass; the debates therein continued all yesterday, and this day it was renewed but not determined; in conclusion their trial was adjourned until the 20th of November next. Mr. Caddel the episcopal minister in whose closet was found in writing a draft of a declaration for the late King James, as also an accompt in writing of considerable sums of money he had received from England, and to whom disposed amongst the necessitous clergy, being acquitted of the high treason is ordered for to be tried for the misdemeanour the 2nd of November.

The magistrates of Edinburgh have conformed their present baileys in the Cannongate, and this day went to Leith and there chose for baileys Robert Cheesley and Robert Macclelan for the year ensuing.

One Daniel Nicholson who in confederacy with one Dr. Elliott and others, in order to get a divorce, did forge an accusation against his wife, falsely charged her with a desire to poison him, being detected thereof fled, but finding means to be reconciled to his wife came home, where by order of council he was seized, as also the doctor, and are both

to be tried for the said forgery, which by our laws is death, and it's believed the forgery will be so fully proved they cannot escape.

The Council have ordered that no corn shall be exported—nor embarked—until security be first given that it shall not be sent to any of their Majesties enemies.

We have advice that an English ship of three hundred tons with tobacco from Virginia is cast away endeavouring to get into Stone Hive harbour in the north, and also another from Norway, but all the men in both saved.

It's said that Captain Grimmington afore mentioned hath brought home about 4,000*l.* value on accompt of the Hudsons Bay Company, and twice as much for himself and ship's crew, which they took in three factories from the French.

On Saturday night we had a Holland mail with the letters of this day sevennight, which bring us a much softer accompt of the battle in Piedmont, which being in yesterday's Gazette all I shall add is that the loss seems to be equal and the French [owe] their victory to their numbers both sides fighting well and brave, neither Spaniards nor Italians being charged, as in our first letters they were, with the neglect of their duty.

The letters from the Hague say that on the 10th the King's convoy was not come, that the confederate army were broken up, but the French since their taking of Charleroy, hath sent great detachments towards Bouffleurs who seemed to have a design upon Leige, and there is a winter equipage preparing for the Dauphin which it's believed with him are to go for Flanders, and some letters say that since the news from Piedmont the French King hath sent Monsieur Chanlais with instructions for Catinat to make the last propositions of peace to the Duke of Savoy, and in case of refusal to destroy with fire and sword all he can.

But I am told that such measures are taken by the confederates that will retrieve what they have this year lost, and support the war so as to bring an equal match into the field next year, and no more fight than two against three.

There is a squadron of men-of-war, six bomb ships, five brigantines and three fire-ships now ready to sail from Portsmouth upon some secret design, and yesterday the Earl of Danby took coach thither, it's thought with a commission to command and all instructions.

One Mr. Cook, sometime Minister at Islington, who hath been long in custody of a messenger and might have been discharged but refused to give bail, was yesterday sent to Newgate, an indictment being found against him by the grand jury—as I am told—for counterfeiting the Lord Nottingham's passes.

Our sessions did not end until last night, of which you shall have a further accompt in my next.

Our Deal letter this day say that there is come into the Downs the *Don Carlos* and the *Success* from Malaga. The *Madona Del Rosario* from Genoa, the *St. Antonia* from Commena, and from New York the *Treines Adventure*, Cyprian Soutback, master, with twelve sail of ships with serges from Exeter bound for Holland under convoy of Their Majesties' ship the *Lyon*, and a Dutch privateer.

In the new charter granted to the East India Company they are restored to the same state they were in before the 15th of March last, and to continue during their Majesties' pleasure, and the same Governor and Deputy Governor as was before, with Sir Thomas Cook and Francis Tysser Esquire and the same twenty-four committee of assistants as before, except one in place of Mr. Cook of Austin Freiers deceased.

Sir Thomas Cook is not dead but continue very dangerously ill; he got no rest last night.

Many projectors are preparing proposal for raising vast summs without burdening the people."

The Marquis of Halifax to [Robert] Harley.

[1693, October 19?] Thursday—"When I am, Sir, many dayes without seeing you I languish like an absent lover, so that you must now come to mee not onely as a friend but as a doctor to a patient. And since I have not had successe in my attempts to wait on you I take the liberty of desiring you would sup with mee tonight at eight of clock."

The Same to the Same.

[1693, October 25?] Wednesday—"I am, Sir, like a plant without raine when many dayes passe without seeing you, and since my being at Acton made mee lose the favour you intended me; pray bee well natured enough to tell mee where I may wait on you to-morrow."

Sir Edward Harley to Abigail Harley, at Brampton.

[16]93, October 28. King Street—Giving an account of his journey to London.

The Same to the Same.

[16]93, October 31. King Street—The King came to London about ten last night. He looks very well I hear. Your brother Harley desires that John Edwards may be sent up on horseback with all speed, not travelling Lord's day. *Seal of Arms.*

The Same to the Same.

[16]93, November 2. King Street—Your aunt was to-day in Hyde Park, and desires to be excused for not writing to you.

The Same to the Same.

[16]93, November 7. King Street—The Earl of Nottingham has delivered the Secretary's seals to the King's command. It is not known who is to succeed. Mr. Russell is declared admiral for the ensuing year.

Robert Harley to [Abigail] Harley, at Brampton.

1693, November 9—The Earl of Shrewsbury does not come in to be Secretary in Lord Nottingham's place.

Sir Edward Harley to [Abigail] Harley.

1693, November 11—I pray that the Lord who most graciously preserved your brother Harley both from receiving mischief and from avenging himself, will dispose the Parliament to make just examples for the security of others.

Sir Edward Harley to Abigail Harley.

[16]93, November 14. King Street—It is late after a Committee. I can only thank you for your letter. The bill against members taking office, and the bill for frequent Parliaments were brought in this day.

[Abigail Harley] to Sir Edward Harley, at Westminster.

[16]93, November 14—I hear Mr. Thompson is gone to Leominster and set upon meeting in opposition to the other. He is certainly a very ill man. I am told some years since he was very conversant in Mr. Milburne's family, was a Papist, and went by the name of Conniers. On Lord's day last Mr. Littleton took the minister of Ludlow to preach at Leominster, where they were treated much as this time five years. They broke his chariot glasses and were like to have spoiled all in the coach.

Sir Edward Harley to Abigail Harley.

1693, November 18. King Street—Giving parliamentary news.

[Abigail Harley] to Sir Edward Harley.

1693, November 20—Giving an account of the ill-treatment received by Mr. Littleton at Ludlow. *Signet.*

[Sir Edward Harley] to Abigail [Harley].

[16]93, November 28—You and I must not be unmindful of the hand of our God which took from us your dear and precious mother as to-morrow six years.

Several here have died suddenly. A daughter of Lord Baltimore's, a Roman Catholic, fell ill before the nuptial ceremonies ended, and never recovered.

The Same to the Same.

[16]93, December 2—Your aunt speaks of taking the air in a lodging in Chelsea Fields. I hope she might bear by gentle journeys to go to Brampton. Last week at a meeting near Bodenham Captain John Price having a tobacco pipe in his mouth fell over the threshold, the pipe struck him through the throat and killed him.

[The Same] to [the Same.]

[16]93, December 5—Your brother Harley is not very well, but through God's mercy spoke well this day against a general excise.

Richard Stephens to Sir Edward Harley.

1693, December 9. Chavenage—Sending him the opinion of that part of the country concerning the cloth trade which was much decayed in England and had almost disappeared in Suffolk, Kent, and Hampshire, where formerly it was flourishing.

[Sir Edward Harley] to [Abigail Harley.]

[16]93, December 12—The House has voted an increase of the land army for 1694, but we still lose by sea. Lately there has been a great loss of Eastland merchants and two frigates, their convoy, carried into Dunkirk. The book mentioned in yesterday's note to be burnt is a pamphlet of most vile and scurrilous blasphemy.

The Same to the Same.

[16]93, December 19—In the great debate yesterday about the triennial Parliament, the Lord was pleased to enable your brother

to speak so that some in the House called upon me to bless God that vouchsafed to give me a son so to speak, and also the mercy to me to hear him. There is a rumour of propositions for a peace with France.

The Same to the Same.

[16]93, December 23—The Duchess of Grafton and the Lord Chief Justice Holt have compromised their dispute before the Lords. She is to have 500*l.* per annum for her pretence to the King's Bench Office.

The Same to the Same.

[16]93, December 26—Informing her of the hopeless condition of her Aunt Bromfield.

B. Woodroffe to [Edward Harley.]

1693, December 28. Gloucester Hall—Concerning the progress of his work for the education of ministers.

[Sir Edward Harley] to [Abigail Harley.]

[16]93, December 30—Informing her of the death of her Aunt Bromfield on the previous Thursday.

J. Foubert to Sir Edward Harley.

[16]93-4, January 6—Enclosing an account.

B. Woodroffe to [Edmund Harley].

1693[-4], January 9. Gloucester Hall, Oxford—On business connected with the Hall.

[Sir Edward Harley] to [Abigail Harley].

[16]93[-4], January 9—On Saturday Lord Macclesfield fell suddenly ill and died on Sunday. This will prove a great loss to the public and particularly to Herefordshire.

[Robert Harley] to Sir Edward Harley.

1693-4, January 29—I join in praises to God for his great mercy to my dear brother, which I beg he will continue and perfect.

Edward Harley to Sir Edward Harley, in London.

[16]93[-4], January 30—It is a great mercy that I may with my own hand let you know of the goodness of God in raising me up from the brink of the grave. The loss of much blood has drawn me very weak.

A. Pye to her cousin, Abigail Harley, at Brampton.

[16]93-4, February 3—Lord Coningsby, by the public news, has met with good friends amongst the Commons to be so acquitted. *Seal of arms.*

EDWARD HARLEY to SIR EDWARD HARLEY.

[16]93[-4], February 6—Sending thanks to Lord Wharton and other friends for their kindness and concern.

B. WOODROFFE to ROBERT HARLEY, at the Inner Temple.

1693–4, February 10. Oxford—On Thursday last, a quaker, accompanied with some few of the same persuasion, but followed with a numerous train of boys and others of the common people, went through the chief streets of this City preaching repentance and threatening judgment for the many sins of the nation.

[EDWARD HARLEY] to SIR EDWARD HARLEY.

1693[-4], March 1—I came this evening from Leominster. The tanners and glovers there are much disturbed at the tax upon leather, and are not shy to vent their anger upon their representatives.

A. STEPHENS to her niece, ABIGAIL HARLEY.

[16]93–4, March 13—When I heard of nephew Ned's dangerous illness, I am sure I had little quiet, and I was not without thought of coming to you. His recovery was a wonderful mercy. I hope he will never more ride so fiercely. Why should young folks so hazard their health? *Seal of arms.*

[EDWARD HARLEY] to SIR EDWARD HARLEY.

[16]94, March 27—The favourable dispensation of Providence towards my brother gives just occasion for all thankfulness.

SIR C. MUSGRAVE to ROBERT HARLEY.

[16]94, May 3—Sir William Trumball's being placed in the Treasury is surprising. A late instance assures me of his being a favourite of a great man, but I conceive him incapable of doing such service as is conjectured by some. Hampden ought to be a Lord, whether ought he not to take place according to his first grant. If Herbert and Boscawen are made Lords, the House of Commons will sustain great loss.

FRANCIS GWYN to ROBERT HARLEY.

1694, May 12. Ford Abbey—I was told before I came out of town that the Admiral had some great design in hand, and that he was to do something this summer at the peril of his and all his friends' credit, but what it can be I confess I cannot imagine. I wish he may take Brest. but I cannot tell how to hope he may. But if he should, I cannot tell how to answer his not burning the ships there formerly when he had a better opportunity, though I doubt he will never put us upon that dispute. I hear there is a new project of the peace come over.

[THOMAS] FOLEY to his kinsman [ROBERT HARLEY].

1694, May 19. Stoke Court—Being employed in pulling down all the things about this place, I make it every day like a new one.

FRANCIS GWYN to ROBERT HARLEY.

16[94], June 6. Ford Abbey—The fleet past by us at Lyme on Saturday and Sunday. The Straits are certainly the only place the fleet can do us service in this summer. What the landsmen on board are to do I cannot imagine, but time will explain it all. I am sorry there was any ground for the story of Will Legge. I hoped it was only occasioned by my Lord Teviot's taking that way, though poor Will hath as much reason to be discontented as any man I know.

SALWEY WINNINGTON to his brother[-in-law] ROBERT HARLEY.

[1694], June 9—Concerning his election at Bewdley.

HENRY GUY to ANDREW NEWPORT.

1694, June 18—Enclosing a copy of a petition from Mr. Chetwynd to the Lords of the Treasury as King to be continued in his office of Deputy Auditor of Wales. *Copy.*

F. G[WYN] to ROBERT HARLEY.

1694, June 25. Ford Abbey—Talmash's lady passed by us here on Friday for London. He complained extremely before his death, that before he went from Portsmouth he had an account of the good fortune affairs were in at Brest to receive us, and therefore desired to know whether he should persist in his attempt, but receiving no answer he thought it his duty to go on, and found it impracticable as he before had represented, but still he thought it his duty to try. He also complained of Lord Cutts for not obeying orders, and sent a message about it to the Queen a little before his death.

The SAME to the SAME.

1694, July 7. Bath—"I have read the Marquis of C[armarthen's] narrative since I came hither, which I thought would have taken up so much of his time that we should hardly have heard of such a narrative of him; but Mars and Venus have very antiently been coupled together. I perceive our fleet is come from Deip a little shattered with the storme, and I supose that and a sicknesse which is amongst the men will put an end to our descents for this summer. I hear this poet Southerne is giving up the secretaryship of the Admiralty, and that Bridgeman and Admiral Russell's Birket are to be joynt secretarys in his room. I would be glad to hear of your new brethren whether they continue quietly to take their salarys, which looks like a great piece of selfe denyall in my neighbor Hutchinson at least."

P. FOLEY to ROBERT HARLEY, at the Office of Accounts, in London.

1694, July 10—On business concerning the commission of accounts.

[ROBERT HARLEY] to SIR EDWARD HARLEY, at Brampton.

1694, July 24—I trust you and my sister will arrive safely at Frampton. We have a report that several in Cheshire are committed for high treason. Mr. Legh of Lyme, Sir Thomas Gerard, Sir — Molyneux, and others.

[Edward Harley] to Sir Edward Harley.

[16]94, July 25—The affair with Mrs. M[iddeton] stands as it did before. Mr. Sw[ain] doth his utmost to obstruct it.

[The Same] to the Same.

[16]94, July 28—The affair with Mrs. M[iddleton] is brought to a full understanding and agreement. To gratify her brother Sw[ain] she desires that her estate may be settled to go to the heirs of the survivor in default of issue, but promises before marriage by another writing to settle it secretly upon Mr. H[arley].

We have obtained an order for suppressing the disorders of Bartholomew Fair, and reducing it to three days.

[Robert Harley] to Sir Edward Harley.

1694, July 28—Giving foreign news.

[The Same] to the Same.

1694, July 31—Lord Edward Russell's lady died yesterday week in childbirth. All talk now of peace and that the King will not fight.

Sir C. Musgrave to Robert Harley.

1694, August 2—The apprehensions I have that this bank cannot be for the public good makes me concerned if their undertaking do not prosper. If Sir Robert can pay so great a sum and not work the tenth part at the end of the session, he hath had since a plentiful harvest. It seem, less than 500*l.* does not qualify for voting according to their scheme. An annual choice will make little alteration and make some particular persons equal Sir Jos. Child.

[Robert Harley] to Sir E. Harley.

1694, August 4—I have some thoughts of drinking "Spaw" water as I cannot go to Tunbridge, which I believe would do me good.

[Edward Harley] to Sir Edward Harley.

[16]94, August 4—The writings are drawn and will be carried on Monday to be perused by the lady's counsel.

Mr. Fleming lately come from Holland and Sir Mark Milbanke are both dead.

[Robert Harley] to Sir Edward Harley.

1694, August 7—The Comptroller's journey to Herefordshire had more in it, I suppose, than the town reports to avoid duns. He is so used to them they disturb him not.

[The Same to the Same.]

1694, August 11—Yesterday the Speaker, H. Guy, Dr. Ratcliffe, and the Bishop of Rochester returned from the Earl of Sunderland. Tuesday next the Comptroller and Mr. Felton will there meet with Lord Marlborough and Lord Godolphin. Some suspect there is a project to reconcile Sunderland and Lord Rochester.

JEREMIAH GRIFFITH, Prebendary of Christ's College, Brecon, and schoolmaster of the Free School thereof, to the COMMISSIONERS of the Archbishop of Canterbury.

1694, August 11—Petition for his restoration to the house from which he had been ejected, and for the restoration of the same, and for the payment of all arrears due to him. *Signed.*

[ROBERT HARLEY] to SIR EDWARD HARLEY.

1694, August 14—Colonel Parker who has been some time a prisoner in the Tower complained to Lord Lucas that the warder lodging in his chamber hindered his rest. Upon his desire the warder was removed to the next room and thereby the Colonel had an opportunity of escaping. It is supposed he crept up the chimney, and that he afterwards got down to the water, where provision was made to receive him.

[The SAME] to the SAME.

1694, August 18—The gentleman porter of the town is bailed, but the warder is committed to Newgate for his carelessness in suffering Colonel Parker to escape.

[The SAME to the SAME.]

1694, August 18—"Until I received yours yesterday I did not imagine or know anything of the insisting upon what your letter is pleased to mention. My brother hath been extremely kind in this whole affair and apprehends it so likely to be advantageous and comfortable to mee that I suppose he was not willing to communicate any particulars to me that might cool my thought in it."

——— to ROBERT HARLEY, at Brampton.

[16]94, August 18—The Queen has signed a revocation of that part of Colonel Fletcher's commission relating to Pennsylvania, as also a warrant to restore William Penn to that colony, who intends to go there about a month hence. The fifteen persons chosen to prepare the laws for the new bank are Sir Bartholomew Shower, Sir Jeremiah Lanbrook, Sir John Cope, Slingsby Bethell, Francis Beyer, Charles Chamberlayn, Samuel Dodd, Peter Ducane, Michael Godfrey, William Gulston, Nathaniel Gould, Francis Gotfright, Robert Lyddall, Nathaniel Tench, and John Woolfe.

[ROBERT HARLEY] to SIR EDWARD HARLEY.

1694, August 21—Sir Thomas Clarges's grandson is dead of the small-pox. I have this day written to my father Foley acquainting him that now the matter seems to have some likelihood, and to advise with him about it.

The feud between the good men at Prince's Hall is gone to that height that there is danger of an open rupture.

[The SAME] to the SAME.

1694, August 25—Old Colonel Fitzpatrick is dead. No will is yet found, though he made believe he would leave the other Colonel

Fitzpatrick his heir. The English Irish will think themselves delivered from a dangerous enemy.

It is very sickly in town, specially fevers and small-pox. Above a hundred died last week of the latter.

The Marquis of Halifax to [Robert] Harley.

1694, August 26—I hope you will not think it a profane proposal "to know whether after you have had your spiritual meal this morning, you will for digestion take the ayre to Acton. If you do not reject the offer, the method I propose is that you would call upon mee at one of clock when a cup of chocolate shall be ready for you, after which, if we can gather a peach and perhaps a bunch of grapes, it may so whet your stomach that it will not take exception against the un-noblemanlike supper you are to expect from" me.

[Robert Harley] to Sir Edward Harley.

1694, September 1—The Earl of Salisbury has the black jaundice. Mr. Repington was yesterday convicted of murdering Mr. Dod. He was five hours in his defence and was very passionate in his behaviour to the Lord Chief Justice.

[Edward Harley] to Sir Edward Harley.

[16]94, September 1—The affair of our great concern will be consummated some day next week. I hope it will be in the beginning of the week, that I may come out of town on Friday. The next post may acquaint you whether the lady will be inclined to go into the country.

Sir C. Musgrave to Robert Harley.

1694, September 4—The public letters say the persons named upon a plot will speedily be tried and then the contrivance will be public.

For Sir Robert Howard to show to the world in one year a book and a child is next a miracle his age considered.

Lord Eland hath lost a good lady, but necessity obliges him to look for another.

Robert Harley to Sir Edward Harley.

1694, September 8—My brother sends a full account of the affair with Mrs. M[iddelton].

[Edward Harley] to Sir Edward Harley.

1694, September 8—Though the writings were sealed on Monday night yet that affair is not out of probability of breaking. I formerly acquainted you that after I broke with Mr. Swain upon his proposal, Mr. Cross proposed to me that the lady should pass over her portion to my brother and his heirs by a secret writing. This is now stuck at, though it has been often repeated, and Mr. Cross says he has renewed promises.

[The Same] to the Same.

[16]94, September 10—I have had an opportunity of removing these rubs to finally agree all things, so that upon Friday I suppose it will be

consummated. A very smart libel is this week dispersed, entituled *A letter to the Lord Chief Justice Holt concerning the plot*, indicating the scheme, and Hugh Speak and Baker the managers. It is very likely to come from Ferguson.

The Fire at Warwick.

1694, September 10. Worcester—"This irresistable fire in five howers consumed all the High Street, Church Street, Ship Street, the great Church, many lanes and other buildings. The houses are numbered at present at four hundred and sixty. The damage at the least amounts to 120,000*l.* This account was sent yesterday to our Bishop with a particular of the money already sent for their relief. Coventry 200*l.* Birmingham 100*l.* Lord Brooke 40*l.*, Lord Coventry 30*l.*; in all about 600*l.*; and we are just going to make a collection for the support of the miserable inhabitants."

Sir C. Musgrave to Robert Harley.

1694, September 10—The Lancashire and Cheshire gentlemen being come to town their treason will be public. It was a pretty piece of confidence in Parker to write to the Duke of Shrewsbury. Surely Paschall is an extraordinary man, if so much pains is taken to provide for him. I allow the Chancellor of the Exchequer is a great manager, but his art and wit will not make Harry Guy take a title to lose his secretary's place.

Dr. N. Johnston to Sir Edward Harley.

1694, September 11—"About the year 1668 Mr. Joseph Walsh of Abberley communicated to me then living at Pontefract in Yorkshire an account of some Roman antiquities found at Kenchester Wells the old Ariconium in Herefordshire,—and as appeares by his leters, you had then viewed them and he was pleased to put me in hopes that you would make a due discovery of all which were remarqueable there. He sent me down some of the ashes and coynes and one brick with a segment cut out in which a tube had laide, and a draught of the area and some of the *camerationes*, and I returned him a large letter of my judgment that it was part of a Roman *Balneum* or *Thermæ*. He also acquainted me that an account was sent up to the Royal Society, but the intercourse being afterwards stopped, I lost further intelligence.

I now understanding that Mr. Camden's *Britannia* being in forwardness to be published by Michaelmas Term with additions of what Roman antiquities have been found since his death, I judge it very necessary for all such as desire to illustrate their country by researches of this nature, as I understand you have in the course of your life much addicted yourself to those studys and are a singular ornament to your country, I presume to request that you will imparte as full a relation of the discovery as you can, and with what convenient speed you can, least it may come too late. I having by me a rude draught of the area of what was then discovered and the contiguations and two or three leters of Mr. Walsh, have given them to Mr. Gibson who is concerned in the edition. But being conscious how defective this account may be, I request for the public benefit you will please to transmit what you think fitt to Mr. Gibson at the Black Swan in Avy Mary Lane, or Mr. Churchill at the Black Swan in Pater Noster Row, Stationer,

London, you will much oblige all lovers of the antiquities of their country, and have a due acknowledgment in the edition. I have communicated some things relating to Yorkshire to the gentlemen, and beg your pardon for the freedom I take."

Sir Edward Harley to Robert Harley.

[16]94, September 11—As for the affair you hint and your brother mentions, I trust the Lord will give you wisdom to discern what should be a persisting consideration.

I enclose an account of the dreadful fire at Warwick. You and I have reason to be specially touched therewith. "The noble monuments of our antient relations are destroyed in the ruins of the church. How wel adjusted upon the Lord Brooke's tomb, very pompous and elegant was the mottoe on the top of it, *Tropheum peccatis*."

[Robert Harley] to Sir Edward Harley.

1694, September 11—The Sessions at Hicks Hall being adjourned to yesterday, it was supposed the prisoners for high treason would have been tried, but that is put off and the Sessions ended.

[The Same] to the Same.

1694, September 15—Earl Rivers died yesterday after five days sickness. It is a great mercy the disappointment of the design to make Sir William Gore sheriff. A great many counties were drawn into the plan, but the night before, it was represented to Mr. Sweetapple the danger they were in, so he accepted the office.

[Francis Gwyn] to [Robert Harley.]

1694, September 17. Ford Abbey—I came home from visiting my borough of Christ Church, which I usually do once a year, and found your letter here.

I am tomorrow beginning a journey into my own Welsh country. "I doe not doubt the good will of our Rose Crucians; they are as restless as St. Dunstan's clocke, and will let noe body rest that are near them. The two hamerers there are certainly of their fraternity, and though they are payd, are never satisfyed if any one else is payd too. That part I doe not envy them, if we were not to pay for their folly and knavery. I hope their power is lesse, but I am sure unlesse it is well attended they will shew it." I have lately heard of my Lord Dartmouth; he was recovered of his fever and gone to Padua.

Pray put an old Northern gentleman in mind of being in town the beginning of Parliament, for then will be the trial of what you hint at.

Sir Thomas Pope Blount to Robert Harley.

1694, September 17. Tittenhanger—"I assure you that without anything of a compliment there is no person living more Mr. Harley's humble servant than myself; and indeed I should be the most particular creature in nature should I not honour him whom all the world does so justly admire." My health is now "so perfect that I almost think myself in danger of that *over health*, which as some physicians write

does most often precede the most dangerous sort of distempers, which to prevent I intend—God willing—this day sennight to be in town." I hear the Royal Bank has at length surmounted all difficulties, and that every day its fame and reputation grows."

The Murrays of Cumber.

1694, September 17—An account of the massacre of the Murrays of Cumber in the County of Londonderry, by Dr. King then Bishop of Derry, afterwards Archbishop of Dublin. *Signed* Joseph Aickin.

[Robert Harley] to Sir Edward Harley.

1694, September 18—This day Parliament met and was prorogued till October 25th. The Speaker has fallen sick and went very ill with colic from the prorogation. Lord Coningsby went last night on shipboard for Flanders. There is reason to believe he goes on a message from the Irish and English Earls, his kinsmen Ranelagh and Rochester. My brother intends to begin his journey on Thursday; I hope by that that time we may have a prospect when our affair will be concluded.

[The Same] to the Same.

1694, September 22—Mrs. Bennett, known as the rich Bennett has been murdered in her house. A butcher is suspected. Mr. Henry Neville died suddenly on Thursday. Last night I was at the interment of my cousin John Jolliffe. None of his wife's relations were there except Mr. Montagu, a son of Lord Sandwich, and myself.

Sir E. Harley to Robert Harley, at the Inner Temple.

[16]94, September 22—"It would be a great joy to hear of your coming out of town, which I desire you to hasten while the weather is good. I wish you would be more large concerning your great affair."

Robert Harley to Sir Edward Harley.

1694, September 25—The King having reserved a favour in the late Charter to the East India Company to make such further alterations as he shall think fit before September 29th, 1694; that time being now very near, the Council sent to the Governor and the rest of that Company to know if they would consent to have the time enlarged. It is supposed they will be refractory, which will oblige the Council to make considerable regulations before Saturday next and send them to the Company.

The Same to the Same.

1694, October 4—"Upon consideration of all circumstances and many particulars too long for a letter, but what I hope to impart by word of mouth, I did think it requisite—upon examination of the several steps of the affair—to put a speedy end to it, and accordingly in the fear of the Lord, humbly begging his direction and blessing, it was finished this morning just after nine, and I returned to the office without any notice taken. It wil be endeavored to keep it private until my returne out of the country, therefore she wil not be known but by her former name. She joynes with me in begging your blessing."

THOMAS FOLEY to his brother[-in-law], ROBERT HARLEY, in London.

1694, October 4. Kidderminster—Since I left town you have been so taken up with the public accounts and your amours, that I durst not trouble you with my letter till I had heard you had changed your condition. We came last night from the hurry of Stafford, where there is fighting every night, and where the constables are beaten and as little regarded as the rest, unless they happen to prevail by their clubs. My father desires that you will get the writs for Stafford and Bewdley sent down as soon as may be after the Parliament meets. My uncle Philip was last Monday chosen bailiff of Droitwich.

ROBERT HARLEY to SIR EDWARD HARLEY.

1694, October 6—The proclamation is published this afternoon for the sitting of Parliament on November 6th. By a letter on Thursday I gave you an account of the consummation upon which I humbly beg your prayers. She and I both join in presenting you our humble duty. The wedding is yet so private that no one knows of it.

[The SAME] to the SAME.

1694, October 9—Several of our English Lords have come over from the King. Earl Rivers, and the Earls of Warwick, and Scarborough, the Duke of St. Alban's and others narrowly escaped drowning, their ship having struck on a sandbank. They were forced to use the long boat. It is supposed that the regiment of Guards, commanded by General Talmach, is reserved for the Earl of Marlborough.

My wife desired me to send the enclosed. It is the first time she ever writ her new name.

[FRANCIS GWYN] to ROBERT HARLEY.

1694, October 13. Ford Abbey—"I perceive the Lords will have more blood to answer for than Mr. Montford's by saving the Lord Mohun, for he is far from mending. We were like, I find, to have a great losse in the Lords you mention in this returne, but they are reserved by Providence for some greater worke."

[ROBERT HARLEY] to [SIR EDWARD HARLEY.]

1694, October 16—I desire my horses may meet me at the Angel at Pershore on the 20th, in time enough to reach Whitley that night.

A. STEPHENS to her niece, ABIGAIL HARLEY.

[16]94, October 23—Condoling with her upon the serious illness of Sir Edward Harley.

JOHN FOLEY to his kinsman, ROBERT HARLEY, at Brampton.

1694, October 26. Essex Street—We were all very glad to hear that Sir Edward is better. Nobody here has reason to complain of not having heard it from you, because Mrs. Harley has not. Your company was much missed to-day in the Parliament House. I hope it will not be missed at our next meeting, when the kingdom, as well as we, shall be the better for it.

The Earl of Salisbury died last night and left Mr. Cholmondeley, of Vale Royal, guardian of his son.

GEORGE FOLLET to [ROBERT HARLEY].

1694, October 30. York Buildings—You cannot but have heard that the witnesses behaved so ill at Lancaster in point of evidence that neither the Bench nor prosecutors would venture them at Chester, and it is reckoned much that they escaped being stoned to death.

The Earl of Clancarty has made his escape from the Tower. Sir Thomas Clarges and the rest of the Commissioners wish well your health and would be glad to see you at the Board.

[ROBERT HARLEY] to SIR EDWARD HARLEY.

1694, October 31. The Talbot at Worcester—Giving particulars of his journey.

The SAME to the SAME.

1694, November 2. Wycombe—We arrived here in good time this evening. Our company that made six included Mr. Taylor, "a secret and observing Papist, who went down but Monday was sevenight."

[The SAME] to [the SAME.]

1694, November 3. Temple—This morning I sent away the horses from Wycombe, and came safe here about three o'clock. I am just now come to Cornhill, and find my wife afflicted with a cold. The affair in Lancashire is scandalously vile. Sir J. Guise and Sir J. How are under censure for the management.

[The SAME] to [the SAME.]

1694, November 6—Many in the House this day enquired with great affection and concern for your health. Parliament is prorogued till the 12th. The King, some say, could not come; others say he will not, being taken up in consulting the Emperor's envoy about the peace.

The management at Manchester was very scandalous. The witnesses would have sworn against Mr. Morris and Sir John Mainwaring.

This day week Mrs. Ludlow was married to Mr. Thomas to the great grief of Sir Francis Winnington.

[The SAME] to the SAME.

1694, November 10—The King arrived at Margate last night safely.

On Wednesday the ministers that used to preach at Pinners Hall separated. One part went to Salter's Hall, the others continue there.

[The SAME to the SAME.]

1694, November 13—The session began angrily, "and some touches of the Northerne plot, which is a mystery of villanous perjury scarce to be imagined." Lord Coningsby got a rap for hanging Gafney. If the House should be called, you will be excused of course till your health is better.

[The SAME] to the SAME.

1694, November 17—I have not seen any minister since I came to town but Mr. Williams tells me the association was disliked and that no

London minister did own it. This night is observed at Temple Bar with greater solemnity than for several years past in commemoration of the Reformation and Queen Elizabeth.

The Same to the Same.

1694, November 20—The Archbishop of Canterbury was yesterday seized with a fit of the palsy. He is not likely to recover.

This day I received a letter from the Duke of Shrewsbury to come to him. I did so, and after a long discourse I cannot find any great hopes of amendment, "only to get men in," as they call it."

Robert Harley to his kinsman, Sir H[erbert] Croft.

1694, November 20—Promising to use his best endeavours to get him excused if the House should be called.

Robert Harley to Sir Edward Harley.

1694, November 24—Yesterday the Archbishop of Canterbury died at Lambeth. The House of Commons are taken up with examining the Lancashire plot. Yesterday Aaron Smith was examined and also Mr. Leigh Bankes, who gave an account of Lunt's attempting to suborn him. It appears plainly that if Lunt had succeeded, he had gone through all the country of England. This day Taaffe, formerly a priest, was examined. There is reason to believe he conceals very material things.

[The Same] to [the Same.]

1694, November 27—Richard Smith sets out to-morrow with a coach to hold six, and six horses. He intends to be at Brampton on Saturday night. I hope you will be in town by Friday evening.

Samuel, Bishop of Down and Connor, to Robert Harley, in London.

1694, November 29. Dublin—If you can find out any command for me "either towards promoting the Protestant and English interest—which I am told is your main concern—or in any more particular and private way," I trust I shall acquit myself as becomes your thankful and affectionate servant.

[Robert Harley] to Sir Edward Harley.

[16]94, December 23—My wife has sent some of the Countess of Kent's powder, of her own making. If it be thought fit for my brother to take, he may take as much as will lie upon a sixpence at any time of the day. The ingredients are "Contrayaria Bizoar, crabs claws, vipers skin jelly &c." Pray God restore his health. I intend to come in the evening.

[The Same to the Same.]

1694, December 26—Concerning his brother's illness, and regretting that he could not come.

[The Same] to the Same.

1694, December 27—I trust that God will spare my dear brother to be a further instrument of praise. I hope he "doth not hear anything of the Qeen's bad condition, I doubt it may disturbe him with thoughts. The fewer speak to him the better. My Aunt Foley sayth she experiences a chain of gold about the neck is good to keep the throat clear."

[The Same] to the Same.

1694, December 28—I am sorry I missed waiting upon you in the House of Commons. Mr. Trench hindered me, he having received a letter from my brother Nat at Aleppo, desiring him to insure his venture to Turkey. I desire to be very thankful that God has hitherto helped us, and beg that he will restore my dear brother.

Prince George came this morning with his compliments to the King and tender of submission and service. The King was asleep.

Henry Guy to [Robert Harley].

[1695, January]—"Though I have the greatest mind in the world to come to see Mr. Harley—for I have had the small-pox and therefore cannot fear them—yet he is not so farre advanced in his recovery as to warrant him for much talking, for which cause I presume to give you the trouble of telling you the discourse which I have heard both learned and experienced persons make concerning the methods to be used at the departure of this disease. Some say that letting blood againe is good, but all agree that there must bee very often purging, for the infirmity which our King labours under came purely from not purging enough after it. They likewise say that after sufficient purging, it is absolutely necessary when he is in the country, to go into asses milke for six weeks, or some such rule, to rectify the whole figure of his blood which this distemper had corrupted. I beseech you to pardon mee for being thus impertinent, but my concern is so great that I choose much rather to hazard your censure than not to satisfy my selfe in not acquainting you—though perhaps it is advized already—with anything that may contribute to his perfect recovery."

[Robert Harley] to Sir Edward Harley.

1694[–5], January 9—I trust God will restore your health as he has been pleased to magnify his mercy to us in my dear brother's recovery.

Edward Harley to Sir Edward Harley.

[16]94[–5], February 1—I am greatly troubled that the first time of my going abroad should be when you were pleased to come here. The enclosed is the draught for the settlement of New River Water, if you please to peruse it and send it to my brother. It will be convenient to have the enclosed written fair before my sister see it. I should also be glad to speak to my brother about it through the door here, in which I hope there would be no danger.

[Robert Harley] to Sir [Edward Harley.]

1684–5, March 4—It was so late after I came from Kensington that I could not wait upon you. The King's answer was "Gentlemen, I

will *examine* your representation and redress your greivances. The Speaker went to him after to change the word 'examine,' being unparliamentary. We shal not goe bareheaded but covered, and if the Lords are covered in the Abby, so will be the Commons. I have enclosed sent your ticket. There wil be the officers of the House to see none but members deliver tickets at the Banquetting House. I desire John Child may bring my black cloak and my long perewig to-morrow morning by seven at the furthest."

The Earl of Ranelagh to [the Commissioners of Accounts].

1694[–5], March 11—An abstract of the debts due to the Army clothiers, and the amount of the "off reckonings" received by them up to the 31st December 1694. *Copy.*

A. Pye to Abigail Harley, at Brampton.

[16]94–5, March 13. Derby—I can't blame you to be glad to see my cousin Ned. Pray tell him how much I rejoiced at God's mercy to him in his recovery of that terrifying distemper which has clad our nation in mourning, and filled all good people's hearts with grief for our good queen's death; though we have some here and near neighbours of the same kidney of some you sent me word of, though they durst not so publicly as bells and bonfires. But I think they were soon down when the King and Princess's reconcilement was known, and the addresses of both Houses. I hear the coronation was not thought so fine as the funeral, though a very melancholy pompous sight.

Sir Peter Soames last Thursday married Sir Walter St. John's grand-daughter Chute, 5,000*l.* down, and near 300*l.* a year after her mother, in land. Public letters relate cousin Stroud's match with Lord Weymouth's son; when I saw him five year since he was a very pretty youth.

Edward Harley to Sir Edward Harley, in London.

[16]94[–5], March 14. Brampton—I arrived here safely last night. I am thankful for the mercy that has spared my brother Nat in so dangerous an illness that proved deadly to others.

[The Same] to the Same.

[16]95, April 6. Leominster—The tanners and glovers here are very sensible of the kindness of friends in preventing the tax upon leather.

Francis Gwyn to Robert Harley.

1695, May 20. Ford Abbey—"I believe your friend Harry—hath like the humorous lewetenant—a small grudging after the parliament of Ireland yet, and but that the Commissioner of Accounts smells something of a Parliament he would hardly be kept from governing them again. Pray let me hear what you doe with the Bancke, and whether you have yet had it under consideration. Here is terrible complaints about the ill money in this country."

A. Pye to her cousin, Abigail Harley, at Brampton.

[16]95, June 15. Derby—Mr. Pye took me a French woman for the children, in London. She has been here a week, and is good for little except to teach. She appears good humoured and well bred, and has lived some years in this country and taught Lord Chesterfield's daughters, "but not such a madmasel as yours that wil doe ordnary business." *Seal of arms.*

Francis Gwyn to Robert Harley.

1695, June 26. Ford Abbey—"The prologue is very good. It is easy to see the difference of the strength of the two squadrons, but I confess I cannot comprehend how it hapenes. For I can hardly fancy it proceeds either from their more particular care of us or from the effect of our addresses, which is altogether as unlikely. I find you stick at Mark and hope you keep your freind Harry at it too. The prologue you sent me putts me in mind of Sturbridge Fair, and the Fop strowlers as well as Fop players speak their owne prologues very often. I am apt to beleive the Bank will neither answere nor refuse, but as the Chancery lawyers say, they will confesse and avoyd, and depend upon their freinds amongst you."

R. H[arley] to [Sir Edward Harley].

1695, July 20—I hope before this you will have arrived safe at Brampton. King Street is now a very lonely place and as desolate as our office at York Buildings on an afternoon, which is haunted but with one ghost then.

Some of our officers here are going to take a review of all the forces in England. Lord Berkeley is ready to sail with Mr. Masters and his machine ships for Dunkirk.

[The Same] to the Same.

1695, July 23—Sir George Rooke is publicly declared Admiral for the Straits. The King said that if Mr. Russell thought it banishment to be with the fleet of England he would not urge him to continue.

[The Same to the Same.]

1695, July 27—Parliament is prorogued till September 17th. The Irish Parliament is to meet on August 27th.

R. H[arley] to Sir Edward Harley.

1695, July 30—"The surrender of Dixmunde being so base and scandalous an action, the letters and prints express no particulars, which excited my curiosity to obtain a more exact account of it, which I have heer abstracted. The Governor of the town was Major General Ellenberg, a shoemaker's son in Copenhagen. Tho' the place is not strong yet it is much better fortified since it came into our hands, and might have withstood the French army for several days, but the Dane could not refuse gold. The garrison consisted of nine regiments, viz., Prince Christian's commanded by Ellenberg, Earl Argyle's, Sir James Leslie's, Sir Charles Graham's, Colonel Brewer, the white Dutch

regiment, and two other Dutch regiments and Lloyd's dragoons, formerly Levisons. Before the French had made any advance the Governor beat a parly on Wendsday; Sir Charles Graham and another sent to treat and agree upon articles which spent that day, and during that time the French made new batterys and carried on their trenches to the counterscarp; then discovered the trick and obliged the garrison to take there shameful termes on Thursday, viz., to loos their armes, be pillaged, and be prisoners of warr. The dragoons refused the capitulation, offered to fight their way through, but—by a trick they say—were made prisoners: the foot offered to maintain the place to the last, and broke their armes rather than deliver them. They were carried in triumph to Ypre. Too many of them, either excited by the rage of discontent or the persuasions of Duke Berwick, have taken up armes in the French service."

Lord Carmarthen, who "took some of his own ships with eighteen merchant men to be the Spaniard, hath run the Cades fleet into Milford Haven and written to the Lords Justices that he wil carry the goods on shore and plant guns to defend them from the French, so that knavery at Dixmunde and folly at Milford makes a poor nation suffer under the actors of the tragecomedy."

Francis Gwyn to Robert Harley.

1695, July 31. Ford Abbey.—I want your advice extremely concerning my ore which mends extremely on my hands since I have sunk for it. I have four men at work all this summer whom I had out of Cornwall. There is quantity enough of the stone which has certainly metal in it by the appearance, but I want trusty operators to inform me truly. I have sent some to Bristol to the furnaces near there, and expect an account of it.

All our clothing and serge trade is increased on us this year to a miracle. I cannot tell for what reason, but it has not been so quick for seven years, and was quite down last year.

[Edward Harley] to Sir Edward Harley.

[16]95, August 1—The election of trustees for managing the Land Bank being upon Tuesday, the scrutiny of the ballots held so long that I had not time to write. The persons chosen are for most part of very fair character. I trust it may prove of service to the whole nation.

Robert Harley to [Sir Edward Harley].

1695, August 10—The account of Dunkirk is very differently related. Lord Berkeley would have made Mr. Meesters a prisoner but he escaped and complains of Lord Berkeley. There was but one man killed.

England and Sweden.

1695, August 12 and 13—Minutes for a memorial concerning the refusal of certain Swedish ships to strike to the English flag.

R. H[ARLEY] to [SIR EDWARD HARLEY].

1695, August 13—My brother began his journey this morning in the Banbury coach. I hope he will have good success at Campden.

Yesterday the City was greatly perplexed with a malicious report of a lost battle and worse, in Flanders.

The SAME to [the SAME].

1695, August 13—The Archbishop of Paris is supposed to be taken away by poison. At least the ecclesiastics rejoice at it. He was passed seventy years and "a great promoter of the clerical toll and of sending for the account of their revenues."

The SAME to [the SAME].

1695, August 20—I hear the Earl of Bradford has a grant of Ludlow Castle, but I believe it is but temporary, to countenance his son's election for the town.

All our seven Kings who can write, have written for a new parliament or at least their opinion, except Lord Godolphin; but whether this is to justify themselves in case there be none, I cannot tell. Possibly a few days after the siege of Namur is over some judgment or guess of their intentions may be made. The enclosed came by the "penny post."

—— to ——.

[16]95, August 23. The Camp near Namur—"The errand of this is to bring you the good news of the forte and castle of Namur being upon capitulation. Our last assaults made us masters of the counterscarp of the forte, and they found us preparing for another attaque which must certainly carry it, haveing our miners fixed to the wall, besids the breaches made before. All this oblidged them yesterday about four in the afternoone to beate the chamade and pitch the white flag. Noe sooner was this done but all the beseigers in the trenches and the beseiged in their workes stood up and discoursed and became so familieir that severall officers went in and out. This occasioned an apprehension in the governour that too many of us should gett into the works, which made him fire a cannon att our trenches, upon which every one retired to his owne post and soe soone as that was done they received a salvo from all our batterys which did not doe them small damage. Then immediately the chamade was beaten againe and they would have capitulated for the forte onely, but the Elector of Bavaria would have the cas[tle] too, else would not heare of any capitulation, to which they complyed, and the King was immediately sent for to this camp. They demand six cannon, arms, [,] and severall covred wagons, but it is said the King will not agree to it; however it is generally believed they will have honorable termes rather than hazard the losse of any more men. The particulars are not yet known, but this night or tomorrow the castle, &c. are to be surrendred. The French army lye still on their ground fronting the Meghame and in sight of our camp, yett cannot pretend to force us. They are where wee were when they beseiged the towne, soe that they are wittnesse now to what is done; but it is thought soe soone as the army imployed at Namur joynes us, the French will march off and gett within theire lines in Flanders, notwithstanding theire gascoignade to come in sight of us and make some motion as if

the would releive the towne. It is thought wee shall be above 120,000 stronge. Everybody will acknowledge the taking of Namur a greate worke considering the French circumstances—of haveing a very stronge garison in the strongest place in Europe both by art and natur; this garrison commanded by a mareshall of France, three Lievtenant Generales, eleven Brigadeers, besids severall eminent officers and Ingeneers, of whom Monsieur Megrenie the second Ingeneer of France was chiefe, and all this in the face of an army of 100,000 men and upwards. The yeare is too far advanced to doe anything more, and therefor it is thought both armys will stay some longer time in feild and then retire to quarters, for the fatigue has beene greater this campaigne then since the war was in this country. I am sorry I cannot send you the plan of the town, forte, and castle, with theire workes, for since the enemy came soe neer us wee have beene constantly in motion from the right to the left and countermarching as they moved. Our camp is strongly intrenched and fortified almost from the Sambre to the Meuse, so that it was impracticable for the enemy to attempt anything upon us without the ruining of theire army; and it is beleived that Bouffleur finding it soe, he came to capitulate."

R. H[arley] to Sir Edward Harley.

1695, August 27—The merchants have advice that the Turkey fleet homeward bound is ordered to make the best of their way without any stay at Cadiz. Sir George Rooke with two ships is ready to sail, but wants some men of his complement. I hope to come to Brampton next week.

The Same to the Same.

1695, August 29—Several things occur to obstruct my coming. Sir Thomas Cook yesterday sent a letter to the Board to desire to be examined. Some are for it. We think the last act discharged us from meddling. It is to be solemnly debated.

My brother's bank instead of being 500,000*l.* should be enlarged to two millions.

The Same to [the Same].

1695, August 31—We have had a very long debate about Sir Thomas Cook and have resolved not to examine him. It is somewhat strange that any one can urge a matter so far which the Parliament had resolved was only fit for their examination.

The Same to [the Same].

1695, September 3—Great are the talks of a new Parliament and great is the likelihood, but yet there are many enemies to it, and there being no post come since Namur was taken, no body can give an account of the King's inclination. It is said the seven Justices have written their opinion for it.

The Same to the Same.

1695, September 5—I am told the King has by this post written positive word he will have a new Parliament, but the time he cannot yet determine. He seems to be disposing all things for coming over quickly.

I intend to come out of town next week.

FRANCIS GWYN to [ROBERT HARLEY].

1695, September 7. Ford Abbey—I must go this morning to Christ Church upon the election of a Mayor, for fear they should play me any trick, for nothing else can hurt me there. "I had a letter last post from the old Volpone, Lord Treasurer, who writes me word his old friend and mine did not intend to stand in Herefordshire. I hope his Lordship is misinformed."

ROBERT HARLEY to SIR EDWARD HARLEY.

1695. September 12—Informing him that he had been obliged to postpone his journey through indisposition, having an attack of the stone.

The SAME to [the SAME].

1695, September 14—Lord Chandos sent a very kind letter to the Speaker, and said that for the country he should be for sober men that would support the public incorrupt and against unnecessary expence, and withal he was for neighbourhood, friendship and relation.

Letters from brother Nathaniel dated in May have arrived. He was then well and full of business. He sold damaged cloth at 14*s.* a yard.

SIR CHRISTOPHER MUSGRAVE to ROBERT HARLEY.

[16]95, September 14—"You may justly wonder at my silence. I have been from home about a week which occasions great refflections by my neighbour, and says I have been consulting with great Jacobits,—which may have ill consequences—and hope by that interest to be elected. I beleive he would court any one to accomplish his designe, and spares no praiers and refflections to mislead the people. It is said he hath promised above to keep mee out. How far such a purse will prevaile is not easily judged of when men of meane capacitys are concerned. If the importunity of friends had not been so prevailent, sitting still had been most agreeable, avoyded great trouble and possiblely disappointment, which generally carrys some refflection besides expence."

GEORGE FOLLETT to [ROBERT HARLEY].

1695, September 19. York Buildings—This day at Council my Lord Berkeley and Mr. Meesters attended, but it was not thought fit to examine that matter. The Speaker is very well but has not been at the board since you left us.

HENRY GUY to [ROBERT HARLEY].

1695, September 24. London—Sending an account of the foreign packet just arrived.

The SAME to [the SAME].

1695, October 3. London—To the same effect as the preceding letter.

W. Snowe to Robert Harley.

1695, October 3—"Tuesday night last my good master Sir Thomas Clarges was taken with a vomiting and shaking but rested indifferent well after it, and thought to have worne it off, but the next morning he was very heavy to sleep and so continued till three in the afternoon, which time he fell into a fitt of the lethergy, for which they immediately let him blood and cupped him and blistered him so that he did not come to himself till next morning, in which fitt the doctor thought he would have dyed, so that he still remaines dangerously ill, being very crazy. The doctors, who are Sir Thomas Millington, Dr. Ratcliffe, and Dr. Adams are to meet this evening to consult for his safety.

[Paul Foley] to [Robert Harley.]

[16]95, October 3—Reporting Sir Thomas Clarges's illness.

J. F[reke] to [Robert Harley].

1695, October 31—Though I doubt not you have a much better account of all occurrences than I can give you yet I must show my gratitude to you by sending you such as I can and possibly it may be some entertainment to you who know the truth of things to see what view we get of them at the Coffee Houses. I had sooner begun writing to you but that I wanted your address, which after much enquiry I was at length directed to send to your house which I did and was favoured with it from your Lady.

Two packets arrived yesterday from Holland. They bring us news that Elembourg and D. O'Farrell and the garrisons of Dixmund and Deynze are returned to Ghent or as many of them as could be found by the French, but I cannot find that Mr. Blathwayte or anybody writes how many are wanting, but those that take liberty to conjecture say on that ground that there are no great number returned.

The Gazette tells you of the taking of Titel and Lippa which is all the Secretary's Office has from Hungary, but there are merchants in town who have letters that speak of a battle and that the Turks are defeated. It may be it is no otherwise than their Fleet was.

The last letters from Admiral Russell were dated the 4th of September in the Bay of Allier—I think they call it—near Alicante. He writes that he is hastening to bring the fleet to Cadiz and that when arrived there he will make all haste possible himself for England, so that his friends—*alias* relations—expect him in a fortnight, and Rooke's friends are as pleased, that he is to succeed him in the command of the fleet.

The King is expected as soon as the wind will permit, for he writes he should be ready to come away by tomorrow at farthest. Whether he come before the 8th or no there is no doubt of a new Parliament if there be any credit to be given to ministers of state, and the writs are certainly all prepared as I am assured from the office.

We hear out of all counties that there are great struggles about elections, and in those parts that I know I believe a third will be changed, and the change not for the worse, and of this I am assured by intelligent persons as well concerning the north as west.

Three things seem to give the Lords Justices a full employment: the Hospital of Greenwich, the corruption of our coin, and the dispute between my Lord Berkeley and Meesters.

The first is designed to be a Royal Foundation, and yet is proposed to be built by charity. The Commissioners appointed in that affair meet

every Wednesday at Guildhall, to beg subscriptions towards it, and to contrive how to dispose of what shall be given.

The second has taken up much of their time, and for aught I find, they are as far to seek of a remedy as ever. Mr. Lowndes has presented them with a proposal in which he has given a curious historical account of our coinage in England, and made many exact and delicate computations, and in the end makes no other proposal, but to new coin all our money and call a crown six shillings and three pence, &c., and that the King shall buy the clipped money at seven or eight shillings an ounce. This project is not liked by many, and even the Lords Justices or at least some of them, though they commend Mr. Lowndes' ingenuity, yet seem not to be of his opinion, or at least to be in some doubt about it, and therefore they have sent to Mr. Lock, Sir Josiah Child, Dr. Wallis, Mr. Newton, Dr. D'Avenant, Mr. Heathcott, and Mr. Chamberlain, merchants, and I think to some others, to give them their thoughts of the matter in writing. I have not been able to get a sight of Mr. Lowndes' paper, but am told it is four hours reading.

The third has been many days hearing and this day they sat upon it, but I believe so great men as my Lord Berkeley and Meesters being concerned it will not be determined till the King himself hears and decides the controversy whether one or both or neither were in fault.

George Follett to Robert Harley.

1695, October 3. York Buildings—This morning Sir Thomas Clarges by means of cupping and scarifying was relieved from a lethargic fit. I went to see him this evening. He discoursed pretty well but not as he used to do.

"The notes of the 23rd September last from Ireland say in a resolve that it was the opinion of that Committee that the countenance and favour which the Irish Papists have had in that kingdom during the late Governments there since the year 1690, have another—cause of the miseries of that kingdome; which is said to aim at Lord C[oningsby] and Sir C. P[orter]." This comes in private letters, but it is not doubted "that the Lord Deputy will soften this matter least the King's affairs suffer, if there be not also regard had to my Lord Romney's being involved therein."

The Same to the Same.

1695, October 5. York Buildings—Whoever writes to you will doubtless mention the death of Sir Thomas Clarges. On Monday he will be carried out of town to be very privately buried about twenty miles hence. Doubt is made whether Sir Walter will succeed in the election for Westminster, the interest of Sir Stephen Fox and Mr. Montagu seeming to increase daily. At Court they make no question of Sir William Trumball's succeeding Sir Thomas Clarges as member for the University of Oxford.

The debates in the Commons in Ireland have been pretty warm about their miseries occasioned by the late Governments and I hear they sate pretty hard upon Sir Charles P[orter].

The most remarkable thing that has come to the Board since you left it, is a petition from the officers of the 2nd regiment of Foot Guards against Sir William Scawen for refusing to allow them money for their servants who were included by number in the clothing contract but not clothed. The sum is above 800*l*. *Signet.*

HENRY GUY to [ROBERT HARLEY].

1695, October 5. London—Acknowledging the receipt of his letter.

W. SNOWE to ROBERT HARLEY.

1695, October 5—My dear good master Sir Thomas Clarges died last night about half past six.

RICHARD TAYLOR to ROBERT HARLEY.

1695, October 5. London—This day Sir John Thompson renewed his discourse concerning the Frenchman, who is very anxious to teach your son and the Speaker's. He has a good faculty for teaching though he is an old man and not very promising in his countenance or behaviour.

J. F[REKE] to ROBERT HARLEY.

1695, October 5—Letters from Ireland report that Sir Charles Porter is impeached of high crimes and misdemeanours, and articles are exhibited against him. There has also been great grumbling against Lord Romney and Lord Coningsby, but hitherto they have been preserved from any formal accusation. Some say the Lord Deputy is content to appease the rage of the Irish gentlemen by suffering the Chancellor to be a sacrifice and thereby save the other two.

I should be obliged if you will let me know how elections are like to go in your parts. In the north and west I am told there will be about a third part new members. I cannot learn certainly whether Sir John Trevor intends to attempt to be chosen any where.

Sir Thomas Cook, though imprisoned by Act of Parliament till Christmas, pretends to be elected again at Colchester. We are in great confusion about money. In all great bargains men generally contract whether to receive guineas or not, and whether they will take silver or goldsmiths or bank notes; and for the most part notes are required.

ROBERT TERREY to ROBERT HARLEY.

1695, October 8—Parliament met this day and was further prorogued till the 31st. The corpse of Sir Thomas Clarges was this day conveyed to Stoke Pogis to be interred.

[PAUL FOLEY] to ROBERT HARLEY.

1695, October 8—Lord Coningsby tells me there is an interest making in Hereford and out of the country against me. I hear young George is busily insinuating that I was against making Wye navigable, and with him joins the Earl of Kent's steward. At present I cannot come down having a swelled face, and I find it is expected by great ones that I stay till the King comes, to compliment him on his return. I am not resolved what to do, but incline not to stir till my family come up next week.

[The SAME] to the SAME.

1695, October 10. London—I have been so afflicted for three or four days with a swelled face as to be forced to keep in, except the Prorogation Day, when I made it worse by venturing abroad. I have been blooded, blistered, and fomented, so I am in no case to write to you with my own hand.

GEORGE FOLLETT to ROBERT HARLEY.

1695, October 10. York Buildings—One Garret Barry, Stewart' Collin and two others endeavouring to get into France without passes, were seized by a messenger, having the Duke of Shrewsbury's warrant and are now under examination before the Lords Justices. The King landed this morning at Margate and designs to be here to-morrow.

The SAME to the SAME.

1695, October 12—The Speaker is kept within by the swelling of his face, whereby he has not yet been able to see the King. It is said the King will visit both the Universities and pass some time at Newmarket before the 22nd November. The five persons mentioned in my last were sent to Newgate.

HENRY GUY to [ROBERT HARLEY].

1695, October 12. London—The King came to Kennington last night, and I believe the writs will be issued quickly.

[PAUL FOLEY] to ROBERT HARLEY.

1695, October 12—I hear it will go hard for Mr. How, all the dissenters being engaged against him for Mr. Guise and Mr. Ireton, by recommendation from this town.

The writs will be sealed to-night. The Lord Keeper doth not deliver any but to his own messengers. That for Herefordshire will be sealed one of the first and sent away immediately.

JOHN FREKE to ROBERT HARLEY.

1695, October 12—A complimentary letter.

[PAUL FOLEY] to ROBERT HARLEY.

1695, October 15—Sending a copy of a correspondence between Lord Weymouth and himself concerning Thomas Foley's candidature at Weobly.

T. FOLEY to his kinsman, ROBERT HARLEY.

1695, October 15 Weobly—Concerning his election at Weobly.

The SAME to the SAME.

1695, October 16. Weobly—The argument which Mr. Birch now uses is that he will nail up the meeting house doors, that I constantly go there and he with me, and he hopes they will not be for one so much against the Church. This is to shew you that there are lawyers in the world fit to succeed Burton and Graham.

H[ENRY] B[OYLE] to ROBERT HARLEY.

1695, October 17. Cambridge—"I write to you from a place where I am more full of business than at London, and tho' I reckon myself at present very sure, yet we are three that stand singly which makes me keep

upon my guard. The contest, I thinke, will lye chiefly between the other two, Dr. Oxenden and Mr. Isham. This last is recommended by the Archbishop of Yorke, the Bishop of London, Lord Nottingham, but chiefly by the Chancellor of the Exchequer. By this mixture I believe he is like to prove an upright man, and I fancy there will not be much difference between either of their votes."

The King goes on Monday to Lord Sunderland's. Such country news is all you can expect from this place. "I am now going to meet with some grave divines and therefore must not converse too long with an enemy to the church."

T. Foley to Robert Harley.

1695, October 18. Hurcot—Worcestershire has fixed upon my father and Mr. Sandys unless some underhand dealing hinders. Sir James Rushout sets up Sir Rushout Cullen with himself for Evesham. My father desires you would keep the pike till the cold weather, for he is informed they would all die if carried now.

Henry Guy to [Robert Harley].

1695, October 19. London—The King is gone a sort of progress towards Nottingham. Mr. Foley is pretty well again.

George Follett to Robert Harley.

1695, October 19—Giving foreign and election news.

The Same to the Same.

1695, October 22—Giving election news.

T. Beverley to Robert Harley.

1695, October 22—I cannot but tell you, whose favour I have so long had "while I have been searching prophecy, that I am dayly in review of the grounds of my assurance concerning [16]97, as I am much concerned, it being now so near and find all tending to confirmation."

[John Freke] to [Robert Harley.]

1695, October 22—A long letter giving election intelligence.

[Paul Foley] to Robert Harley.

1695, October 26—Giving election intelligence.

George Follet to Robert Harley.

1695, October 29—A false report has gone up and down town to-day, and reached into the country, that the Speaker is dead. There has not been the least occasion for any such report.

There have been mighty heats in the House of Commons in Ireland upon the articles against their Chancellor.

P. F[oley] to Sir Edward Harley.

1695, October 31—The King being absent and most of the gentry employed in the country, the town is very empty. I doubt not but that you are sensible how convenient it is that members should be present at the day of summons, but it is not fitting I should put them in mind thereof.

Henry Guy to [Robert Harley].

1695, October 31. London—The King will certainly be back at Kensington on the 13th of the next month. He went away from my Lord Sunderland's on Monday last, and lay that night at Stamford, the next night he lay at Lincoln, and dined at Sir John Brownlow's in his way thither. Yesternight he went to the Duke of Newcastle's at Welbeck, where he will stay and hunt in Sherwood Forest till Monday, and that night he will lie at my Lord Stamford's, and the next night he will lie at my Lord Brook's at Warwick, and the next day being Wednesday he goes to Burford, where he will hunt for some days; from thence he goes to Windsor, and so to Kensington.

A. Pye to Abigail Harley, at Brampton.

[16]95, November 4. Derby—Elections are over, I hope my uncle and cousin are or will be in, though I have not heard yet of it. My brother gave it wisely over for Gloucester, there being three beside himself, resolved all to spend high. I am glad it is past here, this town was in such a ferment. Mr. Vernon lost it by many, it is said it will cost him 700*l*. Bagnold the town clerk is one, a small estate, no quality nor good repute, but so great an interest in the town as to make the Duke at last resolve his son the Lord Harry Cavendish should join with him. The Lord Hartington and Sir Gilbert Clerk passed without any opposition for the county, though many are of the opinion a better disposed man might have been picked than Sir Gilbert. We have had the King near us, but here is no fine sight of Derby to invite him hither. *Signet.*

P. F[oley] to Sir Edward Harley.

1695, November 5—The account of your election without contest was very comfortable. The account come hither of new elections is three hundred and thirty odd of which near a third are new members. What the Court designs upon the opening of Parliament is uncertain.

I write not to your son now because I hope he is coming away. His presence is much wanted here. All things stand still till he comes. *Signet.*

E. H[arley] to Sir Edward Harley, at Brampton.

[16]95, November 12—I desire you will be pleased to acknowledge Mr. Foley's kindness to me which has been extra-ordinary. I came not to town till this evening. When I left Mr. Foley, he and his brother resolved to meet you at Worcester on Monday night and go up in the coach unless the weather and ways proved very fair. I heard on the road Mr. Hampden lay very ill, not likely to recover. It is said in Warwickshire and many other places the King greatly disappointed the country, not coming the roads where they waited to see him.

M[ARTHA] H[ARLEY] to SIR EDWARD HARLEY, in King Street, Bloomsbury.

[16]95[-6,] February 13—We continue here in a merciful condition. I have heard nothing further, but only rumours. The Jacobites have gained much esteem among the mob. All that sort take brass and clipt money. Mr. Chaplin has ordered Thomas Matthews to take all sorts of money. Sir Jo. Charleton did the like and picked out all that was good and distributed it among the poor at Ludlow. By these means they will be able to draw a great deal of the foolish rabble after them. Lord Chandos has gone to London with his Lady.

The ASSOCIATION.

1695[-6], March 2—A list of the Lords who have signed the Association. *See Journals of the House of Lords.*

The SAME.

Same date—A list of the Lords who had refused to sign the Association. The Marquises of Halifax and Normanby. The Earls of Ailesbury, Winchelsea, Chesterfield, Thanet, Scarsdale, Anglesey Craven, Nottingham, and Feversham. The Bishops of Rochester and St. Davids. Lords Ferrers, Arundel, Jefferies, and Chandos.

WILLIAM POWLETT to ———

1696, April 3. Presteign—I examined witnesses concerning the meeting at Presteign you mentioned and send you their depositions. I have bound over Mr. Lingen, who is a Papist, to the next Grand Sessions, and to be of good behaviour till then. As to the pulling down of the proclamation, I find not who did it, but I suspect one Davis who came here about the time of the discovery of the plot in gentle habit and with a rich waistcoat, but not on horseback. He was seen to read the proclamation and said he knew the Duke of Berwick and two others of the traitors. I blamed Colonel Price for not seizing him, and was answered his relations lived in the neighbourhood and that he sold paper-hangings in London.

The ASSOCIATION.

1696, April 3—Copy of the Association signed by the Bailiff, Alderman and Burgesses of New Radnor.

The SAME.

1696, April 6—Copy of the Association signed by the High Sheriff, Grand Jury, Justices of the Peace, gentlemen and others of the County of Radnor. *This and the preceding paper are endorsed in Robert Harley's handwriting.* "Presented to his Majestie in the Bedchamber at Kensington, April 7, 1696."

W. BROMLEY to ROBERT HARLEY, at Westminster.

1696, April 25—We have great clamour in the country about the coin. Some complain of the loss they sustain by guineas, others fear

wh at they may suffer by the clipt money remaining in their hands on the 4th of May. They see no new money, and very little old that will pass, and think trade and commerce will necessarily be at a stand. *Signet.*

[Robert Harley] to William Bromley.

1696, April 28—"Our friend Sir Christopher M[usgrave] began his jorney yesterday morning to the North. He made it his business by al arguments to perswade his friends to signe; and since the designe—which was carried on to the last moment of the Sessions—failed, of obtaining an address against some great men, it is not only plaine they could not be removed without that artifice, but there is room left for more moderate counsils, This continuance of this Parliament seems—at present—resolved. The aime for that and other advices wil be taken from the proceedings of the non-subscribers, the expectation being whether they wil give encouragement to their friends by subscribing at midsummer sessions in their severall countys, or gratifie their enemyes—with the public damage—by refuseing on Friday. I hear there wil be a generall meeting of the non-subscribers to consider of this matter, and the inclination of those I converse with seems to be for compliance with the law, having distinguished their principles enough by not doing that voluntarily, which receives a different character when it is required by law and thereby reduced to be understood no otherwayes but in a legal sence. I have mett with some who have taken pains with great niceness and scrupilosity to examine this for their owne satisfaction, and they tell me that by al they can find in Bishop Sanderson, Grotius and others, the best of that sort, there is no ground of doubt from the words themselves, to any person who hath taken the Othe of Allegeance. Since the Act of Recognition in the first session of last Parliament, custom hath made other parts of the title, vizt., King of France and Defender of the Faith, familiar, and therefore nobody studies objections or scruples; and should the law make additions of Cæsar Augustus, *vestra æternitas*, as well as *Majestas*, which have been given to Emperors, the scrupling such compliance would only cal in question the person's judgement, unless he had a good force to support his denyal. But I beg pardon for all this stuff to a person of so great reading, good sence and well poised judgment as Mr. Bromley" whose love for his country supersedes all the arguments of just resentments. "But I am sure you wil sacrifice more than that to the preserving the whole and keeping the nation from the power of a party who can have no strength but what is given them by such a refusall. Therefore I hope we shal be preserved by you from having stripes by scourges cut out of our owne skins." *Copy.*

Francis Gwyn to [Robert Harley].

1696, May 4. Ford Abbey—I wish I could attend you at the Commission, because I know it would be particularly convenient for you who are always about the town. I am ready to do it on my part if any one of the other four will act. This I told them before I came out of town, but I also told them that if no one of them would act, I would not be the only man of the four that would leave them. This first resolution I will perform to you and your brethren whenever the opportunity is given me, and the second I am obliged in honour to perform to them. My friendship for you alone influenced me to make the first offer to the rest, of complying, for as to what relates to the accounts, I have of late

often admired the wisdom of the government of Amsterdam, who when they had built their Stat House for their honour and conveniency, and had expended in it more than was fit for prudent men to do, burned their accounts, instead of examining, taking, and stating them. I leave you to judge how near the first part is to our case, and consequently whether we ought not to follow them in the latter.

[The Same] to [the Same.]

1696, May 11. Ford Abbey—I acquainted you before I left town that I would meet Mr. Bromley, which I am still ready to do; but at the same time I told Mr. Bromley that if he or any of the rest would not act I would not be the only man of the four that would. I confess I did suspect that the other two were likely to refuse to subscribe, but Mr. Bromley seemed as free and easy in it as myself. This is the state of the matter, from which I cannot depart, especially since I may own to you that nobody had a greater hand in preventing the subscriptions than myself, as the only way to put a stop to a proceeding of that sort which was without precedent. That opinion I am the more every day confirmed in, for I cannot think it will stop as it is. If they intend to fall upon me for not acting, I know the worst, and if they should distinguish me from the rest for signing and not acting, I can yet avoid inquiry, and I know the worst of that too. I confess I have not so sanguine an opinion of another session as you seem to have. I should be very sorry you would take up a resolution of that kind not to meddle in it, because if there is any good to be done you must be the chief father of it.

If you can prevail with Mr. Bromley to come up I will meet him: and that you may see I act fairly with you, I will tell you that I have told him so much since I came down here, but *that* I enjoin you in friendship not to take notice of either to himself or any one else. This is the furthest I can go.

[The Same] to the Same.

1696, May 27—I am now told in my late letters that the discourse of the town is I am coming up to act, and that they have turned their discourse from threatening, to saying they believed I would not quit the 500*l.* a year. Neither their threatenings or censure have any weight with me, for as I never can please them either full or fasting, so I shall never endeavour it.

All our gentlemen in these parts have signed, and will at the Quarter Sessions.

John Methuen to Robert Harley.

1696, June 11 n.s., Lisbon—"My not having given you any trouble before ought to make you take this very patiently, and think me very modest to forbear till now.

The Duke of Shrewsbury advises me of my being named in the renewed commission of trade, and that His Majesty believed I had rather come home and serve him at home than in this employment. Although his Grace leaves me in the darke as to other circumstances of the King's intention, yet I cannot but see enough to fright me in this commission and the company named in it. I have therefore to the Duke, who wrote with great kindness, endeavoured to decline it, but so as I might directly do with irresolution. Now I beg of you seriously

as a friend to give me the best views of it, and the present state of our affairs that you can by the speedyest way possible; and unless you are very unkind you will, and let my brother call on you for a letter which will certainly come safe to me."

Robert Harley to [John] Methuen.

1696, June 30. London—Upon the meeting of the last Parliament when the necessary forms were despatching, the last whereof is the appointing the four Grand Committees, whereof one is for trade, a gentleman took the opportunity and made the first speech was uttered. By the sequel, it seemed to be designed, for he chalked out the lines of the whole proceedings until the plot's discovery interrupted the scheme. Amongst other things a Council of Trade was mentioned as absolutely necessary, and sometime after was voted as one of the heads in the committee upon the state of the nation. When this building was so far erected, the discovery of the plot put everybody's thoughts upon other matters, and left little room to think of receiving trade. Having shewed you that the great struggle of last union was upon this head, you will not wonder a commission is issued out before the meeting of Parliament.

I cannot conclude before I let you know "Mr. Welch, the beau and the poet," solicits to succeed you. How far his interest will reach I know not. He is a Worcestershire gentleman, and it may be expects favour from his great countrymen. You are the best judge whether your continuance at Lisbon depends upon yourself, and which way your inclinations turn the scale. We that are here for the next six months would be glad to be anywhere else. You, only, know how far you may venture without blasting your hopes. *Copy.*

Viscount Galway to [William] Fowler, at Genoa.

1696, July 17 n.s. The Camp, at Moncalier—Proposals are made by the French to H.R.H. for a peace. He has taken time to consider them and communicate them to his allies, and for that purpose a truce of thirty days is agreed to and hostages exchanged. *Signed.*

The Troops in England.

1696, July 31—A list of the regiments composing King's forces in England and of the counties in which they were quartered respectively.

Edward Harley to his father, Sir Edward Harley, in King Street.

[16]96, August 7. Brampton—Penny came this day from Monmouth and says the waters are so high that they could not proceed to pull down the weirs. Lord Coningsby is gone to London.

I have taken Ned for my bedfellow. He says he will no more lie in the nursery. He loses his time very much. If possible some person should be found to instruct him.

R. H[arley] to [Sir Edward Harley].

1696, August 26—King Street has become very lonely since this morning. I trust you will arrive safe at Worcester before this letter.

The SAME to the SAME.

1696, August 29—I have an offer of a young man, son to the professor of Edinburgh, to instruct Neddy. This day the post confirms the discourse of a peace for which the French are more desirous than ever. Parliament will sit the end of October.

The SAME to [the SAME].

1696, September 1—The peace goes on, but the talk of the match with the Elector's daughter is not much relished. The King will only dine at Cleves.

The SAME to the SAME.

1696, September 5—On private affairs.

The SAME to the SAME.

1696, September 8—The Queen of Spain's death though generally said to be poison "is attributed to her surfeiting of eeles boyled in milk, which she longed for, and drinking much lemonade after it. Peace with Savoy is proclaimed at Paris and the general peace seems very near agreed. Some say that the Pope is at last prevailed with to let the late King have the Q[ueen of] Sweden's palace." He is to have 50,000*l.* a year from King William.

R. H[ARLEY] to [SIR EDWARD HARLEY].

1696, September 12—This day is sent three dozen and one bottles of Fountain claret. There are wagers here that the French King is dead but no post is come. If he were gone I doubt our sins would make our own folly as formidable an enemy.

[HENRY BOYLE] to ROBERT HARLEY, at King Street.

1696, September 14. Cornbury—"Your making excuses for your very entertaining letters has a great deal of the country fashion in it. I have been at two or three great treats and very handsom ones since I came down, but all the while one is feasting the good people of the house never fail to ask pardon for putting us in danger of being starved; but as long as I am kindly used I always thank my benefactor, tho' his modesty may make him disown the obligation. I cannot pretend to the merit of making the epigram you sent me, at least in this country, because Sir John Walters brought it down almost a week ago. He and most of the gentlemen of the county are gone to-day to Oxford to struggle for the election of a Mayor under the comroand of my Lord Abingdon, who treats them all, and is usually very magnificent upon these occasions. I have already told you how much you are a country gentleman, and therefore I wont expose any ignorance in writing about the harvest which is so good that nothing but the skil and integrity of the managers you speak of could reduce the people to want and necessity in the midst of so much plenty. I should be sorry to stay in the country till you wanted my assistance in town. I am sure I want your

company extremely, both for pleasure and improvement, but you know I am not now in my own favour, but I hope to kiss your hands at York Buildings the beginning of next week." The Lords give you great thanks for remembering them so kindly.

R. Harley to [Sir Edward Harley].

1696, September 15—The Lord Keeper sent for me again to-day about Radnor Justices. No foreign post has come in except that from the Groin which says the Queen of Spain is not poisoned nor dead.

M. Stephens to [the Rector of Lingen].

1696, September 15. Leominster—Directing him to send an account of what money is charged on his parish for the relief of the poor, to the Archdeacon's Court at Hereford to be transmitted to the Commissioners of Trades.

R. H[arley] to [Sir Edward Harley].

1696, September 19—The King has returned from Cleves. He stayed there all Sunday. "The Elector dined not with him because of the ceremony of the armed chair."

[The Same] to [the Same].

1696, September 22—Sir John Fenwick's trial is again put off. Peter Cook's pardon is passed in order that he may be a witness.

Viscount Galway to [William] Fowler.

1696, September 14, n.s. The Camp at San Nazaro—I have already answered your letter wherein you propose to me to get some trusty persons to embark with the C. B. in case he should go to Genoa. I very much approve of your proposal, and you will oblige me in finding out some such person and agreeing what he would have for undertaking the voyage.

William Powlett to Robert Harley, at Serle's Court, Lincoln's Inn.

1696, October 2—Enclosing the presentment of the Grand Jury for Radnorshire dated September 21st, 1696, concerning the appointment of more Justices of the Peace. *Signed. Signet.*

R. H[arley] to Sir Edward Harley.

1696, October 3—Some say the King will be here on Monday. If so I should be glad to come down though I stayed but three days.

Viscount Galway to [William] Fowler.

1696, September 24 n.s. The Camp near Pavia—I do not think fit that the man I sent to Genoa, to whom I desired you to pay one half a philip a day, shall continue there any longer. I have news that C. B. doth not take his journey through Genoa. However, if you should hear anything of him, I hope you will let me know.

R. Harley to [Sir Edward Harley].

1696, October 10—The King is very well. I have not yet waited on him. The Speaker went in form on Wednesday. The Lord Keeper has not been yet with the King, being sick since Tuesday when he dined with the Lord Mayor.

The Duke of Shrewsbury's misfortune is very inconvenient. His accident was not a fall but a blow with his horse's head as he leaped a litch.

[The Same] to the Same.

1696, October 13—This afternoon the S[peaker] and myself were unexpectedly sent for to the King, and kept in discourse two hours and a half. I trust all things are yet fair. However we have done our duty. The Parliament is likely to be put off for a week. The King goes to Windsor to-morrow. Mr. Campbell sends word he will come to teach Neddy.

The Earl of Clarendon to Robert Harley.

1696, November 27—Concerning the bankruptcy of Mr. Darwin who owed money to the [New River] Company.

Sir Edward Harley to his "niece," Sarah Foley, at Brampton.

[16]96, December 5—"I must now acquaint you the deplorable condition of the family of Hampden. Last Thursday your uncle Hampden having taken into his bed a razor, cut his own throat. Upon the nois of his ratling, his servant came to him, took the razor out of his hand, stopt the windpipe, which did not bleed much, sent for a chirugeon, who sewed up the wound outwardly. Mr. H. was then very sedate and sensible, desired his servant to pray for him, sent for Dr. Burnett of Sarum, desired his Lordship to tell the Duke of Mazarine, Duke of D^{un}, Earl of M[onta]gu, Earl of M[o]n[mou]th, and some others, of the certainty of Divine Providence and eternal judgment. Mr. H. remained in that state Friday and Saterday; in that space saw his mother with great respect, spake kindly to your cosin Thomas Foley, but spake not to any so long or so kindly as to your cosin his daughter-in-law; entreated her kindness to his then wife—sayd now to be with child—and to his son by her. He much desired to see his son who came too late to see his father who died on Saturday night; is to be to-morrow to be carried to be interred at Hampden. Last night the coroners jury found a verdict of his being distracted."

Postscript.—"Mr. H. left as the charge of a dying father that his son should study and obey the Scriptures. The neglect he bewailed."

Viscount Galway to [William] Fowler.

1696[-7], January 4, n.s. Turin—I have spoken with some of the officers of the Irish quartered at Coni, and they have assured that they have not lately lost one soldier by desertion. I am glad of the acquaintance you have got with the painter. You will do well to improve it. It is very proper you should send as speedily as you can a knowing able man to Toulon, that we may know the truth of what is reported here, for they

say the French are making all things ready there to set out their fleet to sea early in the spring. This may be easily known by seeing whether they raise and gather together any seamen, whether they prepare any provisions and naval stores, careen and make ready their ships, and do other such like things.

I shall write to Lord Shrewsbury about the English seamen who, having nobody to take care of them at Genoa, are forced to go into foreign service. In the meantime be pleased to see what can be done to remedy that.

Mr. Achar is well known to me. He has shown great zeal for his Majesty's service. His son was here in the army, and I was pretty well satisfied with him. They both now come from Naples, where Mr. Achar has a brother-in-law, called the Baron de Lette, who is not to be trusted, and who may have corrupted them, so be pleased to observe them a little, and endeavour to know what correspondence they keep with that Baron, and why they are at Genoa. *Signed.*

The Same to the Same.

1696[-7], February 2, n.s. Turin.—I long to hear some news of the man you have sent to Toulon. In the meantime do not let any opportunity pass without enquiring of all the ships that come from Toulon in what state preparations are there and how near their fleet is to be ready. *Signed.*

The Same to the Same.

1696[-7], February 21, n.s. Turin—Regretting that he could not assist him to obtain the consulship at Genoa in the place of Mr. Kirke. *Signed.*

Lord Montague to Robert Harley.

[16]96[-7], March 8—As soon as I am well enough to stir abroad "I will wait of you and concurr with you in everye thing you please to bring our Governours of the New River to reason."

Edward Harley to his father, Sir Edward Harley, in London.

[16]96[-7], March 11. Court of Weeke—It was not without great regret that I forced myself to leave London without receiving your commands, but it being two o'clock in the morning before we finished with my Lady Purbeck, and going to the coach by four in the morning, there was no time to wait upon you but in the dead of the night.

The Same to the Same.

[16]96[-7], March 20. Brampton—I met Mr. Fiennes, and others at Hereford on Wednesday, when Mr. Fiennes received full instructions to pursue the orders sent to him from London, and immediately to proceed in making the slope descent for the passage of the fish at New Weir. The lowering of the weir does not satisfy the country, and I doubt will not secure the passage of the fish unless more be done. Directions were likewise given that Hereford weir should be pulled down as soon as Iles had assigned his lease.

The Same to the Same.

[16]97, March 30—The dry weather and continued frosts have withered most of the corn, which promised well. "The contempt of the gospel and the vile abuse of peace and plenty, has long given just cause to expect the judgments of God upon the nation, which now seem to be falling upon us."

Mr. Penny says that through the persuasion of some in the town, the weir and mill at Hereford are permitted to stand till the middle of April, which he since hears, was done with a design that Mr. Bodenham at the first seal might obtain an injunction to stop the pulling down the weir. I need not mention how great an inconvenience it would be should that design take effect.

By appointment I am obliged to be with Lord Powlett at Court of Weeke on Tuesday.

The Same to [the Same].

[16]97, April 9. Weeke—Concerning the delay in pulling down the weir at Hereford.

The Same to the Same.

[16]97, April 14—By many persons I understand that great abuses are committed with relation to the fish at the Earl of Kent's weir. Great quantities of timber lay upon the shoot for want of free passage. We go hence upon Monday to Hinton.

The Same to the Same.

[16]97, April 17—We left Court of Weeke before your packet arrived. We feel here the effects of putting a stop to the currency of hammered money, having made but very few bargains, there being scarce money enough to supply the demands of necessity.

Captain Kidd.

1697, April—"His Majestie having been pleased by his letters patents under the Great Seal of England dated the 26th of January last to give power to Captain William Kide, commander of the ship *Adventure* galley, and to the commander of the ship for the time being, to apprehend and take into custody Thomas Too, John Ireland, and Thomas Wake, William Mace *alias* Mare, and all other pyrates, freebooters and sea rovers of what nation soever, whom he shall find on any the coasts or seas of America or any other seas or parts, with their ships and vessels and all such merchandises, money, goods, and wares as should be found on board them; His Majestie is graciously pleased to grant unto Richard, Earl of Bellomount in the Kingdom of Ireland, Edmond Harrison, merchant, Samuel Newton, William Rowley, George Watson, gentleman, and Thomas Reynolds, their executors, administrators, and assignes, without account to be rendered to his Majestie, all ships, vessells, goods, merchandises, treasure and other things whatsoever which since the 30th of April 1696 have been taken or seized upon or with, or did belong to, or which shall be taken or seized upon or with, or which do or shall belong to the said pyrates, freebooters and sea-rovers and their adherents, or any other pyrates, freebooters and

sea-rovers by the said Captain William Kidd or other commander of the said *Adventure*, galley, or which by means of the said ship shall be taken or forced on shore in any of his Majestie's plantations in America or other his dominions, as far as the premises do or shall belong to or may be granted by his Majestie." *Copy.*

T. H[ARLEY] to ROBERT HARLEY, in King Street, Bloomsbury.

1697, May 24 [new style]. Rotterdam—"When we came over we found the treaty ready to begin, the King of Sweeden's death having nothing retarded it, for the Queen being regent—till the Prince, fifteen next June, comes to eighteen—and having a double voice, with five nobles, continued their ambassadors power as mediator, commanding that the instructions of the late King be followed till further order. The first meeting of the Plenipotentiarys was on Thursday 19th of your stile, in April, when their several credentials were shewn and given the mediator, and on the Saturday following they concluded of the time of their convention, viz. Wednesdays in the morning, and Satturdays in the afternoon. The Wednesday was spent in punctilios of honor concerning entring into the house and rooms and in what order &c. What they do or will do in the main business of peace I know not, nor list I to be very inquisitive therein" because I look for little good; "but either we must take what our enemies will give us or continue the war." The French are so far from owning our Ambassadors that they will not treat "with the confederates if ours be present, it is said, nor own them as from King William, and their armies are upon us already and have surprised us. The King after his landing was feaverish and let blood, but is now perfectly well, God be thanked; but all that week he was in the Hague, the French came not there, tho' the weeks both before and after, he went to Teulesteyn and intended for Loo, but the French investing Aeth caused his coming to Breda this last Munday, whence he is gone to the army. He is under great disadvantages, wants money extremely to pay his army, has desired to borrow of the States. Some say they have it not to lend, but all say they will shortly take up a great sum on life rents. The Dutch wonder you supply him not better on such pressing emergencys. Aeth is not sufficiently provided. Several of the chief and under officers absent, the garrison too few, a regiment that was sent to supply came too late and forced to return finding the place surrounded, which was the 16, new stile, where they begun to open their trenches the 17th, and played upon it with their cannon the 18th. I fear they will soon be masters of the place which cannot hold out more than twenty days and there is no hope of relieving it. "We hear the French want no money at the present. Forty great farmers of the King's revenue having undertaken to furnish him each 100,000 lires within a month or six weeks." *Signet.*

The PROTESTANTS in ENGLAND and FRANCE.

1697, May 31.—"In the winter 1680, Mr. Francis Tallents was with Mr. John Hampden who was sick at Paris, and heard Monsieur Jussel and others express themselves much dissatisfied with Monsieur Claude's letter which Dr. Stillingfleet had printed at the end of his book, and were told that many of the chief of the congregation at Charenton were so. About March or April 1681, Mr. Hampden and he got a meeting with Mr. Claude at a frend's house, where Monsieur Allix—one of the then ministers at Charenton and since in England—

and some others were present. They in a civil manner, expostulated with him about that letter, and showed him he was a stranger to and did not understand the main particulars of our differences in England, which he and some of the others that were present confessed they did not. One thing mentioned by Mr. Hampden and Tallents was the new book of ordination which differed in some very considerable things from the old one. They confessed they had never seen it, and for their fuller information Mr. T. immediately after his return to London, which was about the end of May, sent over one of them. Monsieur Claude with much ingenuity, expressed himself troubled at what he had done, excused and explained some passages in his letter, and condemned Monsieur Le Morin's letter which was printed with his, shewing the difference there was betwixt them. And hearing that within a month or two I should return for England, not knowing how better to vindicate himself, he said he would write a letter to a French Protestant lady of note, then in London—upon the marriage of her daughter to a considerable English gentleman—to shew to the Bishop of London and others to that effect. He did so and Mr. T. delivered it to the lady, whose name he has forgot as also her son-in-law's. It was a very hansome letter to that purpose, but the words he cannot remember, and fears he kept no copy of it because he cannot find it amongst any of his French papers he hath kept by him. How the letter might please he knows not, but it's clear that in [16]85, when driven away, he came not hither—as Monsieur de l'Angle who got him to write the letter did, and was a prebend at Westminster—but went to Holland.

Mr. T. being at Chaalons in Champaign in October 1672, met with Monsieur John Blondel, brother to Mr. David Blondel, who told him that many priests and divers English divines resorting much to the Lord Scudamore and the Earl of Leicester when ambassador at Paris about the year 1640, Mr. Potier, the Earl's Secretary was much troubled to hear them say daily that the Protestants in France had no true ministers or sacraments &c. because they had no bishops, and put his brother upon writing his book *Pro sententia Hieronymi*. The national synod at Charenton 1644 made an act for his printing it, which was done in [16]46. Mr. T. after, in a letter from Paris, wrote him what Mr. Durel has printed about it in his treatis about the English liturgie, printed in [16]62, *pag* 339, 340. To which he answered in a letter—which Mr. T. hath by him—dated January 6 [16]72–3, that it's possible the good archbishop might have heard that story, and that Durel might have it from Du Moulin, but that it is false, for that the book was begun in the year [16]40 to vindicate the French churches; that his brother holds episcopacy to be onely of ecclesiasticall institution and not apostolical; that he never wrote that his brother had expunged the passage which Durel mentioned, but that possibly the Scots would have had him treated episcopacie as anti-Christian, which he was far from doing."

T. Harley to Robert Harley, in King Street.

[16]97, June 28. Falmouth—I was detained at Corunna by contrary winds, but I had an easy passage hither in five days. The last news from Madrid gives an account of the siege of Barcelona. *Signet.*

R. H[arley] to [Sir Edward Harley].

1697, August 18—I hope this will find you and the good company safe arrived at Brampton.

The Same to [the Same].

1697, August 19—Lord Hartington's young son is dead.

The Same to [the Same].

1697, August 24—There is a flying report that a ship come into Bristol says that Nevill sent an express from Jamaica of his engagement with Ponte's squadron.

The Same to the Same.

1697, August 26—This night Mr. Wallop is buried. He died of a suppression of urine. Many stones were found in his gall and there was a feather there.

[Sir Richard Cox] to ———

1697, August 26. Dublin—"Two bills supposed to be drawn by —— and —— were recommended to the House. The first was called a bill for confirming outlaryes and passed the Commons in three or four days, which precipitation might be partly occasioned by the mention of a letter pretended to be received from Reswick, importing that the French Ambassador had made a motion to Sir Joseph Williamson, that if the Irish were restored, the Hugonots should be. To which Sir J. W. replyed that it was not in the King's power to do soe, having tyed up his hands by a law to the contrary; and so to justify this answer and to prevent further sollicitation, hast was to be made in passing this bill.

However they made a vote to prepare heads of a supplementall bill, and so it was sent up to the Lords Friday last.

This bill confirmed all outlaryes, to which it was objected, some Protestants, many innocents and severall after their death might be outlawed, and gett all confirmed by this clause.

Secondly, it enacted that all inquisitions taken or to be taken within two yeare, finding any person dead or slaine in rebellion should produce the same forfeitures as if the party were attainted of treason in his lifetime, to which it was objected that Protestants would be doubly affected hereby. First, some that were justices of peace or other offices in [16]88 and [16]89 under King James and dyed then, might now have their familyes ruined by such inquisitions. Secondly, Protestants that purchased from the heirs of such Irish as soe dyed or were killed shall now by a law *ex post facto* be defeated of their purchases. Thirdly, that such heirs being within articles shall likewise loose their estates by this law contrary to the articles.

There was yet a third clause worse than all the rest, that for the time to come, such inquisitions finding any man to have dyed or been killed in rebellion, should worke such attaindure and forfeit his estate.

Many hott debates were about this bill; some endeavoured to have it pass and to remedy the defects by a supplemental bill; others thought it was better to draw a new bill from the beginning."

On the same sheet is a letter dated London, September 9th expressing great dissatisfaction with the parliamentary proceedings in Ireland, where there was more party contest than in the English Parliament.

[Edward Harley] to Robert Harley, in London.

[16]97, August 27—The newsletters say Mr. Wallop is dead. I have a just pretence to that place the King having promised it to Lord

Wharton for me. If it is not disposed of and you think fit to mention it, I suppose it is attainable.

If you come down there are three brass bolts wanting for the parlour and drawing-room doors. They should be bigger than those at Lincoln's Inn.

R. H[ARLEY] to [SIR EDWARD HARLEY].

1697, August 28—I hear two persons contend to succeed Mr. Wallop. Simpson and Mr. Ireton of Gray's Inn. An oath of abjuration is carrying on in Ireland. If immorality were abjured it were very well. We are pulling everything down about the house as fast as we can.

The SAME to [the SAME].

1697, August 31—My wife is very busy pulling down and removing.

[SIR RICHARD COX] to ———.

1697, August 31. Dublin—If the addition to the Limerick articles does not pass, "then all those Irish that were in Kerry and in the quarters of the Irish in the countyes of Corke, Lymerick and Mayo may forfeit all the estates which hitherto they have held under the authority of that article."

September 6—"—— has many ill qualityes and very few good ones, and therefore I hope wont eat a peck of salt with us"

September 14—"Everything here goes now pretty smoothely one way, the partyes being broken as I told you by the defection of Mr. Savage, Chancellor of the Exchequer, from his friends." It is impossible "to give you an account of our partyes now in respect as they stood when you were here. Onely in generall the Brodericks carry things very modestly since their rebuff; and the other party being in some manner quashed by Savage's business, they have both been pretty quiet ever since and I believe will continue soe. Not but that upon the least occasion there is fire enough left to be blowne into a flame, as was lately experienced in Toland's businesses, when we ordered his book to be burned and banishment to himselfe, which was accordingly done last markett day by the hands of the common hangman before the Parliament dore and the Tholsell in the citty, where we carryed it against the Broderick party ten to one at least, insomuch that they did not dare divide. Toland made his escape into England, where he had best stay."

R. H[ARLEY] to SIR EDWARD HARLEY.

1697, September 2—My wife and I have been so busy removing that I have only time to acquaint you that we intend to come out of town next week.

DANIEL WILLIAMS to ROBERT HARLEY.

1697, September 3—I apprehend no hazard by your late disease so I purpose to dine with you to-morrow at ten o'clock.

[Frances Gwyn] to Robert Harley.

1697, September 4. Ford Abbey—I could wish that our old brethren as you call them would have employed themselves as I have been, in making a new way; but I have always found there is nothing so hard to reform as a reformer. I asked your brother Ned concerning the magnificent building of Mr. Speaker, which though I had heard of I did not believe, but he assures me it is all new.

George Follet to Robert Harley, at Brampton.

1697, September 7. London—Our horse grenadiers and other troops ordered to march into winter quarters are refused entrance at the Bosch and forced to camp outside the town unless they pay ready money and clear off their old scores. It is said other towns will do the same. So miserably poor are our officers and soldiers.

Lord Portland makes frequent returns between the Hague and Loo, and Lord Villiers about the 10th was going for Utrecht.

Robert Harley to his father, Sir Edward Harley.

1697, September 9. Whitley—We arrived safely here last night. Father Foley has taken all things out of the coach and will not let us come until to-morrow. I desire you will let some one on horseback meet us at Tembury to direct the way.

[Henry Guy] to Robert Harley.

1697, September 14. London—"I can now send you the happy news of a peace. On Friday last at twelve of the clock at night it was signed by England, Spain, and the States General on one side, and by France on the other; and there is time given the Emperor and empire to the 1st of November to come in; and orders were presently despatched to proclaim it at the head of both armies in Flanders. Mr. Prior, Secretary to the Embassy of England, is on the road, and expected every minute with the treaty sent to the Lords Justices to prepare the instrument of ratification."

George Follet to Robert Harley.

1697, September 14. London—On the 9th instant our plenipotentiaries were at Ryswick morning and afternoon till eleven at night. On the 10th the peace was signed between the ambassadors of the King of England, Spain, and the States General on the one part and the ambassadors of France on the other. The Emperor's ambassadors wanting full orders were allowed to the 1st November to come in. The articles on our part are said to be very full, and no mention in them of King James.

Mr. Prior, Secretary to the Embassy came to Whitehall about three this afternoon. The Lords Justices had risen about half an hour before.

W. Snowe to [Robert Harley].

1697, September 14. King Street near Golden Square—The people are very joyful at the peace, they express their joy by bonfires and illuminations, though the Government does not do it by the guns at the Tower.

G. B—— to Robert Harley.

1697, September 21. London—Concerning the recent peace, and asking for a letter to the Earl of Bellamont on behalf of two young men, Mr. Lyselaer and Mr. Governour. *Signet.*

[Henry Guy] to [Robert Harley.]

1697, September 21. London—The happy news of the peace is received everywhere with wonderful rejoicing. I have made the compliment you ordered me to the Lord Chamberlain.

[The Same] to [the Same.]

1697, September 23. London—Several here have changed their style since the news of the peace.

—— to Robert Harley.

1697, September 23—It it said here that Mr. Prior has gone back to rectify an error and to bring with him the original treaty instead of a copy, but others say the omission of the warrant hindered the Broad Seal from ratifying.

[Henry Guy] to [Robert Harley.]

1697, September 25. London—On private affairs.

John Methuen to Robert Harley.

1697, September 27. Dublin—"I must frely own to you that I came here a stranger and with great prejudice against our gentlemen here; sensible of the ill conditions things were, and very doubtfull of the issue of them and the great disadvantage I was under. But yet they deceived me quite, and conspired to make me believe them the fairest people, and that it was impossible to miscarry, so good were they, so affectioned to the King, soe sensible of their own interest. But I doe assure you that from the moment the day was settled and the meeting of the Parliament fixed, the partyes set themselves on work to embroyl every thing, and held there clubs, and were all so different and so awkward, that never was poor man in such distress as I have been for nine weeks. The whole matter of managing the House of Commons, the House of Lords, the Privy Council and the correspondence with England. But all the rest was nothing to the courting of the perticular members. The thing most like it was the solliciting my disputable election for the Devizes. I then found people very different from any other sort of people I ever saw, being jealous, distrustfull one of another, and that with reason; interested to the highest degree, fond of imitating England in all matters against the prerogative, spirited up by some hott men who have sate in House of Commons; very uneasy under the strict dependance in England; seeming earnest against the Papist upon account of the English interest, but often proposing to themselves other matters. In this manner, a stranger, without any certainty who depended on us, wee opened the Sessions to get a sum of money to pay off" arrears. We have been able to get 200,000*l.* "and to part very

good friends, so as to hope they will meet to pass the bills now sent over in better humour, and to lay the foundation for future better management." You cannot imagine "what accounts wee were forced to lay before the House of Commons nor can judge of any of our difficultys unless you could know our Privy Councill and our Houses of Parliament. All the last part of our difficulty hath been in the House of Lords where eight or nine of the bishops joyned with five or six Irish Barons, and when they could impose on any of our honest Lords would carry everything, but always came within one or two of every question. In short wee have prevented any mischeife, gained almost all our points wee endeavoured, and if things be fairly represented to the King, I believe he will be very fully satisfied. In the beginning of the Parliament a cunning Irish Lord told me a story how they break horses in Ireland, which is by ropes about them, putt them in a bog, and let them tire themselves, and then they are easily broke."

The Scotch interest grows extremely "and requires a great deal of care, because they are closely united to one another and to their friends in Scotland, and the difference of religion divides them from the English."

William Snowe to Robert Harley.

1697, September 28—On Saturday I waited on Mr. Boyle at Burlington House. I cannot yet hear of any business saving that I was misled to serve Sir John Banks as country steward, but I hear he is a very austere master to serve.

It is said the Lord Mayor and Court of Aldermen have sent to the Lord Chamberlain to know if the King would accept of the Lord Mayor, Court of Aldermen, and all the City Companies "to attend him in their formalities" when he passes through the City.

It is also said that some of the principal Roman Catholics are preparing an address to the King to congratulate him on concluding the peace, and to assure him that they will ever be his most faithful subjects.

——— to [Robert Harley].

1697, September 30. Loo—To-morrow is the day for exchanging the ratifications. The French King has sent orders to all his officers to acknowledge King William, and to treat him with all his titles. He has named the Duke D'aumont to go Ambassador into England and the Duke of Grammont into Spain.

William Blathwayte to ———.

1697, October 8. Loo—I am glad everything goes now to your mind by the happy conclusion of peace. Our ambassadors at the Hague have very full instructions to treat with the Czar and his ambassadors for the restoring our privileges in Muscovy and vending our tobacco throughout their vast dominions, which would be of the greatest importance to England and the plantations.

[Thomas] B[ateman] to [Robert Harley].

1697, October 12. London—Though the peace occasions great joy, and though some heads and hands are at work about fireworks in St.

James's Square, yet my particular joy is much interrupted by the news of your indisposition.

Nobody wishes success to your mine adventure more than I do; therefore to hear that a trial proves, as well as promises, fair, will be acceptable at all time.

GEORGE FOLLET to ROBERT HARLEY, at Brampton.

1697, October 12. London—Lord Portland left the King on the 3rd and was to leave the Hague on the 6th and come aboard the *William and Mary* in order to his arrival in England. The King has presented the Czar of Muscovy with a ship called the *Royal Transport*, which first comes hither to be refitted and then returns to Holland, where they have almost reached the end of their treaty with the Muscovy Embassy about trade and commerce.

W. SNOWE to ROBERT HARLEY.

1697, October 12—The news from Virginia is that Admiral Nevill and Mees, Captain Lilcot, Holmes, Belwood, Dyer, Studley, and Fisher are dead, and all the Dutch captains but one, with 1,500 seamen [of Nevill's squadron].

[PAUL FOLEY] to [ROBERT HARLEY.]

[16]97, October 12—Offering to borrow money of him.

R. H[ARLEY] to SIR EDWARD HARLEY.

1697, October 18. Whitley—The Duke of Shrewsbury was fetched to Gloucestershire on Tuesday by Lord Wharton, but I think it best to send Francis thither with a compliment.

I wonder the Speaker should send now about the money which he absolutely refused when I was at Stoke; however I will write to my brother Edward about it.

[HENRY GUY] to [ROBERT HARLEY.]

1697, October 19. London—"Yesterday the post came in. Notwithstanding the difficulty which the French started about our King's being called King of France, the ratifications are exchanged, and with that title in. The peace was proclaimed here this day. The Emperor will certainly sign by the day prefixed, and the Turks have made so great offers that it is likely there will be a peace likewise. The King intends to embark on the first of the next month, and to lie a little short of London, and so come through the city in state the next day. My Lord Portland is looked for every minute, and on his arrival it will be resolved what day the Parliament shall sit. I know the Speaker hath given you an account of the business of Mr. Knight; it is flat against him. I hope you have been by this time with D. S.

While I was writing this I received yours of the 13th instant. I hope—as you do—that every one will do as they should do, but the matter is of that concern, and so irrecoverable, if now lost, that I am in the last anxiety of mind about it, which cannot be expressed in a letter;

and therefore must be deferred till we meet, which I hope will now be shortly; for in all probability the parliament will meet about the 20th of the next month, and I am sure you will come up some time before that; otherwise it will be impossible to consider and discourse of what will be necessary."

THOMAS BATEMAN to ROBERT HARLEY.

1697, October 19. London—"If any such thing as joy can be in the midst of noise and confusion, the proclaiming of the peace this day makes it my lot. I must own I have seen the heralds march in as much order as the rabble would let them, but really if there were no other marks and effects of a peace with France then are to be seen about Charing Cross, I should conclude that instead of a peace with one nation, we had begun a war with heaven, and I should call it a gigantic one too."

W. SNOWE to [ROBERT HARLEY].

1697, October 19. London—Mr Auditor Marriot has been committed to Newgate on a charge of altering the values of exchequer bills.

This day the peace was proclaimed with great pomp but the Duke of Norfolk was not there.

Dr. Salisbury yesterday received sentence of death for counterfeiting stamp paper.

P[AUL] F[OLEY] to [SIR EDWARD HARLEY?]

1697, October 19—The King designs to come through the City on the 4th, and therefore to lie the night before seven or eight miles short of the City. I think it requisite that you and my nephews be all here in the same week at furthest. Though none here know the day of the Parliament sitting down to business, it is reckoned it will be suddenly after the King's return. There are so many removes now making of officers in the collection of revenue, that if cousin Robert were here he might help many for whom he is concerned.

R. H[ARLEY] to SIR EDWARD HARLEY.

1697, October 20—I sent your letter and a letter from myself to the Duke of Shrewsbury, and have received a very civil answer.

[PAUL FOLEY] to [ROBERT HARLEY.]

1697, October 21—Parliament is further prorogued to the 23rd of November. I much want your company and desire you will hasten up. You know not of what use you may be here. Evils are easier prevented than cured.

W. SNOWE to ROBERT HARLEY.

1697, October 21—My Lord Bellamont is embarked on board the *Bedford* at Portsmouth, for his voyage to his government. It is said ten regiments will be forthwith disbanded.

The Same to the Same.

1697, October 23—Some time since Lord Mohun killed Captain Hill at the Rummer at Charing Cross belonging to the Foot Guards. His Lordship absconded, but yesterday he was taken out of Lord Warwick's house in Essex Street and carried before Chief Justice Holt who took the Earls of Warwick and Macclesfield, Colonel Coote and Sir Robert Tyrrell for his bail in 3,000*l.* each.

Lord Clarendon desired me to inform you that there will be a general Court or meeting for the New River water affairs about the 7th November, and that he desired you to be in town by that time if possible.

R. H[arley] to Sir Edward Harley.

1697, October 23—Concerning his wife's health.

George Follet to Robert Harley.

1697, October 29. London—We discourse of little here besides the great equipage preparing for my Lord Portland's going to France.

[Henry Guy] to [Robert Harley.]

1697, October 30. London—Begging him to come up to London quickly.

—— to [Robert Harley].

1697, November 2. London—This day the foreign post, date 31 October, brought an account that the Emperor's Minister signed the peace. Here are great preparations to receive the King. The public officers are ordered to attend his triumph through the City, so is the Lord Mayor, &c. He will pass in his coach. The Governors of the city have been very diligent to prevent the squibbing: the Recorder thinks they have done it effectually having discovered forty-seven thousand six hundred and ninety-seven dozen of serpents and six crackers. The fireworks in St. James's Square are to be extraordinary. Sir Martin Beckman told my Lord Romney "My Lord you will not see better fire in hell." My neighbour Sir F . . says some of the great men of the Court have endeavoured to engage him, but he told them plainly he would not head their party. Can you think it is possible he should believe they design to force the seal upon him? Your Lord who broke the tea-stand talks furiously against an army and makes all the interest he can, but I am told seriously the majority of the Western Members talk that way too and are resolved to appear the beginning of the sessions. It is confidently said my Lord Ro[cheste]r Go[dolphi]n and Mar[lborou]gh are reconciled, and some people are to be engaged by honours to be done the family at St. James's. The heroes of last sessions cannot do the business of next, for some of their followers will start unless they can make them believe the work will be done by other hands. If so, 'Why—say they—should we honest men force the King into his enemies' hands?' If you please to pardon this little tittle tattle I will tell you where you or Mr. Foley may buy a bargain. Gudius of Hamburgh made a fine collection of books and manuscripts which may be had at an easy rate for eight hundred or a thousand pounds.

THOMAS BATEMAN to ROBERT HARLEY.

1697, November 4. London—Enquiring after his health and the progress of his lead undertaking.

—— to ——

[16]97, November 6—The King is expected with the first fair wind. It is whispered there shall be a single Lord Treasurer. Some say the Earl of Sunderland, others, Lord Godolphin. The Earl of Albemarle to be Lord Chamberlain. Some say there is a party of members who will press for a Court and a settlement on the Duke of Gloucester, which will not be thought any kindness to his Majesty. The heads of the Jacobites—the Musgraveites—intend to move for a standing army, thinking thereby to ingratiate themselves into the King's favour; but we hope he will perceive their designs and consider that that must render him unacceptable, and be burdensome to his subjects. "Eyes will be upon you when you come into the Senate."

EDWARD HARLEY to his father [SIR EDWARD HARLEY].

[16]97, November 6—I am now in London and will endeavour to be at Brampton next week. I have too great an honour for the lady there to decline the utmost fatigue to show my respect and value for her. My cousin Thomas Harley is in town but I have not seen him. There being some overtures of an accommodation between Lord Powlett and Mr. Strode, I cannot leave town till Tuesday, being expected to bring that matter to some issue.

R. H[ARLEY] to SIR EDWARD HARLEY.

1697, November 20—We came here well this evening. The vale was dangerous with the frost. Parliament is prorogued till December 3rd.

The SAME to the SAME.

1697, November 23—The prospect is very cloudy. Every one is full of the common topic, a standing army, and it is talked with heat on both sides.

The SAME to the SAME.

1697, November 27—The argument against a standing army has raised a great heat in the town. There is very little prospect of moderate councils.

The SAME to [the SAME].

1697, November 30—The heat against an army rather increases than otherwise, so that it is thought necessary to disband the four French regiments which were to be kept. All endeavours are used to sweeten people. Our friend in Essex Street is sent for at eleven to-morrow and the other at Lincoln's Inn at eight to-night;

[The Earl of Sunderland] to [Robert Harley.]

[1697?] December 3—"There is no man in the world whose advice I would so soon follow as yours. I have accordingly laid the whole matter before the King, and must expect what he will say to it. I am not obstinate, I am not resolved against anything he thinks fit to command, but one cannot breathe without air, that is the creature can live but in an element suitable to its nature. I have been used too much to courts, but I know not how to live in this, which I am now I doubt too old to learn."

The Same to [the Same].

1697, December 4—Sir William Trumball, after many attempts to resign, on Wednesday last gave up the seals, which were conferred on Mr. Vernon. The Duke of Shrewsbury is gone down, but keeps his places.

On Wednesday night [—] attended the King. I hope God directed him to say what became an honest man, with all decency.

Lord Crewe is dead, and has left his daughters well, but I do not know the particulars.

The Same to [the Same].

1697, December 7—Giving parliamentary news.

E. H[arley] to Sir Edward Harley.

1697, December 7—We hope by next post to hear of the removal of your indisposition, and that you are able to travel without prejudice to your health.

The case of the French Protestants both here and in France is very deplorable. What was given by Parliament last session is not half paid, and being placed upon deficient funds is not like to afford much relief to them.

The Same to [the Same].

1697, December 28—Every one here is surprised that Lord Sunderland on the 26th offered his Chamberlain's staff, which the King refused, as he had done three weeks before; he afterwards sent it by Secretary Vernon. No one knows the cause.

E. H[arley] to Sir Edward Harley.

1697, December 28—Next week a ship departs for Scanderoon. Considering the low condition of trade and the circumstances of the empire, which seems to be expiring, it is to be considered whether it were not advisable that my brother Nat should return home. Lord Sunderland has laid down to his staff and quitted the Court; it remains yet a secret what is the occasion of it.

R. H[arley] to [Sir Edward Harley].

1697-8, January 1—"Lord Sunderland's retiring wil leave the managers very naked. Duke Shrewsbury hath sent up his refusal of the white staff."

The Same to [the Same].

1697–8, January 4—I thought we should have sate all night upon the examination of the fraud of Exchequer bills. Marriott voluntarily made a long confession. Mr. Knight, the member, is sent to the Tower. A terrible fire is raging at Whitehall.

E. H[arley] to Sir Edward Harley.

[16]97[–8], January 4—The whole day has been spent in the examination of the forgeries and practices upon Exchequer bills. Mr. Knight was this day committed to the Tower after he had been heard in his place in the House, where he talked with most audacious impudence. About four o'clock a fire broke out in Whitehall, which is now in flames. The Queen's lodgings are all burned down, so is the chapel and Guard chamber.

The Same to the Same.

[16]97[–8], January 8—"Last night a Rore club was summoned, where it was resolved to bring the question for the disbanding of the army into debate againe, which was done this day contrary to all the roles of the House." After many hours debate the House resolved to adhere to their former resolution. Mr. T. Pelham carried himself with great firmness, and so did Sir R. Onslow.

The villanies and corruptions of the Exchequer officers is most apparent; but Knight or Burton can discover things of a higher nature than are yet talked about. The true reasons of the Earl of Sunderland quitting are very uncertain. Some say that he thought the Court would deliver him to the Parliament.

R. H[arley] to Sir Edward Harley.

1697–8, January 8—It was designed this day to break through the vote of disbanding the army, by surprise, contrary to all order. The thing was laid, but after eight hours debate was defeated.

I hope to hear of my wife's perfect recovery.

The Same to [the Same].

1697–8, January 15—The Czar is in town. The Earl of Macclesfield disturbed him by coming in to see him while he ate. The King visited him yesterday. He is every day in a different habit. I think I shall have an opportunity to be with him. He speaks, I hear, Latin.

The Same to [the Same].

1697–8, January 22—I shall be glad to hear when you are able to begin your journey.

E. H[arley] to Sir Edward Harley.

[16]97[–8], January 22—Concerning the Exchequer bill scandal.

R. H[arley] to [Sir Edward Harley].

1697-8, January 25—On parliamentary matters.

The Same to [the Same].

1697-8, January 29—Yesterday the receiver of Westmoreland and Cumberland, a justice, deputy lieutenant, &c. was committed for the frauds on the Exchequer bills. It is an age of fraud and corruption.

E. H[arley] to Sir Edward Harley.

[16]97[-8], January 29—The account of the return of "the vertiginous distemper" is justly the occasion of great concern.

Mr. Soudwick's widow is disposing of his shop to a relation of her own, so there is no probability of getting cousin Horatio in there.

The Speaker has exposed himself to severe censure by passing by an affront offered him by Mr. Smith when he was out of the Chair, who told him that if he was used so rudely by him any more as he had been that day he would pull him by the nose. Though the words were heard by some of the members, who could have complained of it to the House, yet nothing could prevail with the Speaker to own it. Young Mr. Walsham will, I expect, be ruined. He will not stay at any school where he is placed. This is the third youth that I have been entrusted with, who has been undone by being kept too long at home. I cannot but wish that Ned was sent to Mr. Moreland's at Hackney.

[Robert Harley] to [Sir Edward Harley.]

1697-8, February 1—There are great quarrels in the Court of Spain. The Queen espouses her cousin, the Prince of Hesse, and the Emperor's interest; the other Grandees oppose her. The French make advantage of the divisions and take the handle of the new law which makes all who stay after February 1 here, and have been in France since December 1688, guilty of high treason. He takes this colour to justify his severity to the new converts in France.

Edward Harley to Sir Edward Harley.

[16]97[-8], February 5—Public business moves very slowly. "Mr. Powil's second son, of Shadwell, was this day reprimanded upon his knees for saying some things that reflected upon the Lords of the Treasury, which he could not make out. It put some in minde of the story of the jester that was whipt in Queen Elizabeth time for calling the Lord Nottingham 'fool.'"

R. H[arley] to [Sir Edward Harley].

1697-8, February 5—This day has been spent about Mr Powell's son.

There will be another attempt, I hear, to increase the army by 6,000 marines.

The Same to [the Same].

1697–8, February 1—Asking him to send money for distribution among the poor of Radnor, Rhayader, Knighton, Knucklas, and other places on the day after February the 13th, the day of King William's inauguration, and also 3*l.* to the Bailiff and capital burgesses, to make an entertainment for themselves.

E. H[arley] to [Sir Edward Harley.]

[16]97[–8], February 12—Concerning an address from the House of Commons to the King praying him to issue a proclamation against profaneness and debauchery and for punishing the authors of blasphemous pamphlets.

E. H[arley] to Sir Edward Harley.

[16]97[–8], February 19—The punishment upon Mr. Duncombe was yesterday resolved upon in a Committee of the whole House. He is to forfeit two-thirds of all his estates, to be appropriated to the public use.

Sir J. Trevor to [Robert Harley].

1689–9, February 20—I entreat your company with others of our friendship to dine with me this week. Sir Christopher and Mr. Gwynn will settle the company with you this morning.

E. Harley to Sir Edward Harley.

[16]97[–8], March 12—The coachman will be at Brampton on Saturday. I hope you and my sister will have a safe and comfortable journey.

[The Same] to [the Same.]

1697–8, March 15—With the coach is sent a quart of the best brandy and a pint of *aq. comp. gent.* and *sal. vol. oleosum.*

[The Same] to [the Same.]

1697–8, March 19—Yesterday the King went to Windsor, but the Duke of Shrewsbury has the gout in his knee.

Robert Harley, Chief Steward of the King's Lordships of Cantred, Meleneth and elsewhere in the County of Radnor to Andrew Davies.

1698, March 29—Authorising him to hold the three weeks courts of the Lordships and Borough of Knucklas, Ugra Neython, and Ruralt in the absence of himself and of Edward Harley the deputy Steward, as deputy steward and clerk or recorder thereof. *Signed.*

EDWARD HARLEY to SIR EDWARD HARLEY, in London.

[16]98, April 16. Bristol—Recommending a falconer who has been some years assistant to the keeper of Lord Powlett's park. He asked 8*l.* wages and the keep of two cows, and he would undertake to destroy all the moles about the grounds.

The SAME to the SAME.

[16]98, April 23. Brampton—Complaining of the extravagance with which he found things were managed there out of doors.

The SAME to the SAME.

[16]98, May 2—Reporting that rain had fallen after the long drought, and announcing his speedy return to London.

A. PYE to her cousin, ROBERT HARLEY, at Westminster.

1698, May 11. Derby—Concerning the election of a member in the room of Mr. Bagnold deceased.

DR. G. HICKES to ROBERT HARLEY.

[16]99, May 11—Thanking him for his subscription towards the impression of his book, and for his antiquities with which it would be adorned and enriched.

The SAME to the SAME.

[1699], June 18—Thanking him for lending him the transcript of Sir R. Owen's manuscripts.

LEMUEL LLOYD to ROBERT HARLEY, at New Buildings, Lincoln's Inn.

[16]98, July 10. Heyop—Concerning the elections in Radnorshire. *Signet.*

[G. FOLLETT] to ROBERT HARLEY, at Brampton.

[16]98, July 21. London—The election at Reigate is to be to-morrow; and instead of Adney and Hetherington they put up Messieurs Harvey and Thurland.

Mr. Tankard has been "at sharps" at Aldborough with Mr. Ardington, another candidate. They are neither of them hurt, but a poor fellow that stept in to part them is run through the hand. On Monday night a Secretary was at Kensington, and the King made all papers be sealed in his presence, commanding that none should be opened till ten o'clock next day, so that he might be out of the reach of fresh importunity from any that are not answered as they desire, or not at all.

Smithson and Lake stand for Westminster against the two late members. Mr. Hammond I hear has yet the better of J. M—— at Cambridge.

HENRY GUY to [SIR EDWARD HARLEY].

1698, September 20. London—I am infinitely concerned at the unfortunate accident which has happened to [your son], and the more because there were so many hours between his fall and the letting of blood, the only remedy for such a mischance, and which must be repeated to prevent fully any future ill in the head.

The SAME TO [the SAME].

1698, October 4. London—Your letter gave me much ease of mind concerning your son, though I confess I do not like the bad blood appearing at the second bleeding. It plainly shews that there is bad blood to be fetched away. The head has suffered most in this accident, and the physicians say that the letting blood in the foot has the best effect on the head, and so likewise has cupping on the shoulders or back; but for the prevention of any future consequence nothing is so good as two issues in the shoulders just by the neck. This draws away all bad humours from the head and is a sure remedy against apoplexy, epilepsy, and many of those diseases.

EDWARD HARLEY to SIR EDWARD HARLEY.

[16]98, October 29. Lincolns Inn—It is generally thought the Parliament will not sit till after Christmas. I perceive Sir Edward Seymour has a great inclination to the Chair.

The SAME to the SAME.

[16]98, November 8. Lincolns Inn—It is a great mercy to hear of the continuance of your health. Mr. Stretton and I have appointed Thursday for distributing the residue of the money to the French refugees, which is about 50*l*.

The SAME to the SAME.

[16]98, November 19—I thank God for my wife's recovery. Rigby a captain of a man of wur is accused of horrid blasphemy and sodomy.

[ROBERT HARLEY] to SIR [EDWARD HARLEY.]

1698, November 29—It has been snowing the whole day without intermission.

Parliament met and was prorogued to this day week when it is hoped the King will be here.

"Madam Rickhoen being ordered to leave the kingdom and promised so to do to Secretary Vernon, is retired nobody knows whither."

EDWARD HARLEY to SIR EDWARD HARLEY.

1698, December 3—Concerning the choice of a Speaker.

[ROBERT HARLEY] to [SIR EDWARD HARLEY.]

1698, December 13—It is said Lord Saye is dead, and his only son is travelling in Italy. I think he is the only person between "our countrymen" and the honour. Sir Christopher Musgrave is come to town. He and many enquire after your health.

[The Same] to [the Same.]

1698, December 20—Captain Rigby stood this day the first time in the pillory.

The Same to the Same.

1698, December 24—Yesterday was designed a vigorous attack upon the second reading of the Disbanding Bill, but after two hours debate it passed without division. The first design was to fling it out, the next, by instructions, to spoil it.

The House is to be called over on January 3rd. All absentees are to be taken into custody. I hope my brother will not fail to be there.

The Same to the Same.

1698, December 27—To-morrow week is our great day for the Bill of the Army at the Committee.

The Same to the Same.

1698, December 31—My brother came safe here yesterday. He had a most terrible journey but looks well. Rain and floods were very troublesome to him.

E. H[arley] to Sir Edward Harley.

[16]98[-9], January 3—The Bill for Disbanding the Army being committed, the House goes upon it to-morrow. The Court are resolved to make their utmost effort for 10,000 men, and to keep the Dutch guards. Great endeavours have been used to make converts. My brother's conduct in this affair is very much commended. It has been much talked of that Lord Godolphin is to be Secretary of State, but the report is looked upon but to be "hawking with a hobby."

My wife must excuse my not writing to her.

R. H[arley] to [Sir Edward Harley].

1698-9, January 3—I sent in the box Dr. Davenant's essay upon Trade &c. I hope it will afford you some diversion to hear it read.

[The Same] to [the Same.]

1698]-9], January 7—Monday next is for the election of Weobly to be tried. I pray God give success there.

[The Same] to [the Same.]

1698-9, January 10—Last night we had a long attendance on the Weobly cause, and success was vouchsafed, though cousin Foley's counsel did not manage for the best.

EDWARD HARLEY to SIR EDWARD HARLEY.

1698[9], January 10—The difficulties concerning disbanding the army seem to be over. The Court now own that they are not able to contest that point in the House of Commons. It is no small cause of thankfulness that a dear relation is so eminently useful and has his health so well.

[ROBERT HARLEY] to [SIR EDWARD HARLEY.]

1698[-9], January 14—This day cousin Foley came into the House Mr. Birch's return being taken off the file.

EDWARD HARLEY to SIR EDWARD HARLEY.

[16]98[9], January 19—Mr. Trench told me to-day that my brother [Nat] by a letter dated in August intimates his intention of returning to England some time this year. The bill for disbanding the army was yesterday ordered to be engrossed. It is said the King is very uneasy, and thinks he is ill served by some about him.

[The SAME] to the SAME.

[1698[9–], January 21—A letter from my brother Nat shall be sent you by next post. It concludes with these words "Nothing but your conversation could put me in so good a humour after so great a misfortune as I had yesterday when I lost that hors I told you of, who was killed by the Arabs, and after he had received three mortal wounds, by his invincible spirit, brought me safe home."

[ROBERT HARLEY] to [SIR EDWARD HARLEY.]

1698–9, January 21—Great endeavours are being used to disturb the bill for the army, or indeed to fling it out in the Lords. I pray God avert the mischief, for it seems to me nothing but a dissolving of the Government, for there is no medium I think but disbanding the army or keeping it up, shutting up the Exchequer, governing by sword and edicts.

[The SAME] to [the SAME.]

1698–9, February 7—The Parliament in Ireland is prorogued till May. There was great expectation of an attempt yesterday to keep the Dutch Guards, but it was not begun.

WILLIAM PENN to [ROBERT HARLEY].

[16]98[-9], January] 30. Bristol—"I was very glad to hear my friend Archdale's affair ended so well, which I am sure was much owing to thy prudence, kindness and interest, and must have been a great motive to his son's success. But thy trouble must not end here; I have two things more to recommend to thy favour, one relates to America in case any thing should be started that should concern the plantations and especially those in propriety. Pray be a friend to the absent, and without vanity, the meritorious. Since nothing is desired beyond the alter. Let us be treated like Englishmen, and not loose our domestick

advantages for cultivating of wildernesses, so much to the honnour and wealth of the crown. Wee extreamly suffered by the last act of [16]96, in divers respects against the plantations, at large, and particularly injurious to our people, to say nothing of the blow that is given to jurys, in favour to the Court of Admiralty. The next thing is, that if any persecuting temper should show itself in your house, which I have some cause to believe will, at least, be attemted, thou would please to remember the house that liberty of conscience is one of the articles of the originall contract of this revolution and most agreable with that of the English Goverment at large; otherwise wee must think our selves very ill used, to be tantalized with liberty, and as soon as the nation as well as our selves, begin to finde the benefit thereof, it should be invaded, and overthrown by the envy of a few mercenary clergymen, who are combined to influence the gentry, what they can, to turn the edge of power against us. I know thy double influence in the House, to moderate one sort and to excite t'other to help us. I shall not excuse this freedom because I think I have liberty to use it, and therefore I shall add no more but my hearty good wishes, which will always attend thy worthy endeavours for a publick good."

[Edward Harley] to [Sir Edward Harley.]

[16]98[–9], February 7—My endeavours to procure the reversal of a hasty and imperious order for recalling Sir Edward Littleton kept me out so late that I had not time to write by the last post.

A most violent tempest began here this morning which has done great mischief. Many persons have been killed by the fall of chimneys.

The Same to the Same.

[16]98[–9], February 11—Sir John Phillips's bill is baffled in a most scandalous manner. After the bill had gone through at the Committee, the question for reporting it being put, it passed in the negative. Such an open appearing for vice is a sad omen. Yesterday a petition was presented by me against one Mr. Weekes, a receiver of the customs, who having a large sum of the King's money in his hand, stood upon his privilege. After a long debate it was allowed that privilege ought to be allowed against the King. That debate gave a fair occasion to move for leave to bring in a bill to restrain the number of officers in the House, and also to take notice that there were some in the House that had disabled themselves from sitting or being members; which hint was so far improved that Isaackson, a commissioner of the Stamp Office was named, and after some hours' debate was expelled the House. Mr. Cornish and some others may expect the same sentence. This has struck a great damp upon the Court. The order for recalling Sir Edward Littleton is reversed.

Edmund Waller to Robert Harley.

[16]98–9, [February] 23. Beaconsfield—I understand that petitions out of Norfolk and Suffolk are intended to be presented to the House of Commons against the people called Quakers by which it is designed to deprive them of their liberties. I am like to be a sufferer by this, being convinced of the innocency and agreeableness of their principles and practices to the Holy Scriptures and the civil government. *Seal of arms.*

[Edward Harley] to [Sir Edward Harley.]

[16]98[–9], February 25—My brother is now pretty well. He found much relief from bleeding. His blood was very rheumatic and bad.

I enclose list of names of the regiments which are not to be disbanded. It is thought strange that there should be as many horse and dragoons kept as foot.

[Robert Harley] to [Sir Edward Harley.]

1698–9, February 28—I have been able to attend the House to-day. The pain is abated but there remains weakness in my leg. During the height of the pain there was no discolour nor anguish in touching the part. Sir Joseph Horne died yesterday. An artery broke in his head as he was going to bed on Thursday. He voided blood at nose and mouth. Yesterday also died the Duchess of Bolton of an apoplexy.

[The Same] to [the Same.]

1698–9, March 7—This day in the Committee we have put a negative upon malt and have voted not exceeding 3*s.* upon land, according to the proportion last year; so that seems to hasten the session.

Edward Harley to Sir Edward Harley, at Brampton.

[16]98[–9], March 14—My brother is able again to attend the House, where he is of great service. Yesterday a successful attack was made on the Admiralty. If the House does not thin after the call, in all likelihood the enquiry into the miscarriages of that commission will determine in an address to the King.

Cousin B. Smith came to me lately, and said she was no longer a Papist, and was sorry she had ever professed that religion.

[Robert Harley] to [Sir Edward Harley.]

1699, March 28—Yesterday we had the report of the resolutions of the Admiralty mismanagements, which were all agreed to and are to be laid before the King in an address. There was an unfortunate behaviour in some of our friends which hindered some additions to the address so that they were lost by two.

[The Same] to [the Same.]

1699, April 1—Sir William Whitmore is dead, also Mr. Francis Courtenay son to Sir William. Mrs. Maynard is married to one Walrond but I hear has before settled her estate. My brother went to the West yesterday.

[Edward Harley] to [Sir Edward Harley.]

[16]99, April 1—There is now a certain account of the landing of the French in Ireland. It is greatly feared that they will fall upon our ships that lay upon those seas to transport our army. Several smart speeches have been made against the Ministry, particularly Sir Christopher Musgrave spoke much of the dissolution of the last Parliament and the King's speech at the prorogation.

[Robert Harley] to [Sir Edward Harley.]

1699, April 9—I hope to hear on Monday from Brampton of your and my wife's health.

The distemper continues amongst the horses. The direction for prevention is to bleed, and so when seized, but not to purge; that is death. Give them scalded bran and boiled carrots for food and "diapente, annyseeds, elycampane, floure of brimstone, and powder of licorice make up with treacle. Otes are not good."

Lord Holles's memoirs are printed. They contain chiefly an accusation of Oliver and Sir John, and defence of himself and the eleven members, with a good deal of acrimony in the style, though not more perhaps than they deserved.

[The Same] to [the Same.]

1699, April 11—I spake with Sir H. Ashurst, but he doth not well know what he means himself. "I wish their governor doth not more mischief to that poor country than anyone else. He intended to manage a Parliament or Assembly at New York, and then about May go to New England." The Duke of Ormond, who behaved himself with great honour and bravery in the war, and with no less love to his country since, yesterday morning gave up his commission of the command of the Guards on a point of command between the Earl of Albemarle and himself. I hope there will be no ill consequence, for it will look with an odd aspect.

[The Same] to [the Same.]

1699, April 25—On private affairs concerning the Wharton family.

[The Same] to [the Same.]

1699, May 9—The great congress of our statesmen is now at Windsor. Till they come back we know not what will be done. Only Lord Portland has quitted all his employments. It is supposed the Duke of Somerset will be chamberlain.

I should be glad to know in what year Queen Elizabeth granted the tithes and vicarage of Wigmore to the Bishop of Hereford.

[The Same] to [the Same.]

1699, May 13—I had hoped to hear what you were pleased to command in relation to my wife and sisters coming up for a few weeks, and the little ones.

The King is returned from Windsor to-night. It is supposed that Lord Jersey will be declared Secretary to-morrow. No other changes or promotions were made at Windsor. Only Lord Courtney has the regiment of Colonel Leveson deceased. Mr. Godolphin succeeds Mr. Yelverton, deceased, in the command of the Guards and Mr. Southwell, clerk of the Council in Mr. Bridgman's room.

[The Same] to [Same.]

1699, May 20—My wife's letter informed me of your indisposition. Yesterday Mr. Spencer Cooper second son to Sir William Cooper was committed for the murder of Stout the Quaker's daughter at Hertford.

The Same to [the Same].

1699, May 23—It was a great refreshment to receive yours last week. I trust God will confirm your health. I have several things that will require some days to despatch and then I shall hasten down.

B. Farley is at Plymouth. I doubt whether he is as careful as he should be.

[The Same] to [the Same.]

1699, May 27—The Admiralty is now settled to be five, and the salary of the seven divided amongst them, namely 1,800*l.* a year to the first and 1,300*l.* a year to the other four.

The Same to the Same.

1699, June 3—Lord Dursley is dead of the small-pox. The Earl of Berkeley is to be one of the Justices of Ireland.

[The Same] to [the Same.]

1699, June 6—Conway Seymour had a slight wound in the neck yesterday, given by one Captain Kirke who began the quarrel without provocation in St. James's Park.

The King landed in Holland on Saturday. He would not stay at Canterbury for his linen or other conveniences.

[The Same] to [the Same.]

1699, June 10—Mr. Lobb's death is remarked upon because of his being immediately put in a coffin and removed. He bled and was warm next day.

Lord Abingdon is chosen High Steward of Oxford and Malmesbury, and has the majority at Wallingford. At the first and last the Lord Chancellor's name was set up, and at Malmesbury Lord Wharton appeared against him.

[The Same] to [the Same.]

1699, June 13—This day Mr. Cooper was again brought up to be bailed, but it was not done as the Court were divided. One Mr. Norton, only son to Sir George has killed a man in Holborn without provocation.

[The Same] to [the Same.]

1699, June 17—Conway Seymour is now dangerously ill from his wound. This day Mr. Duncombe was tried about Exchequer bills and found not guilty.

[The Same] to [the Same.]

1699, June 20—"Truth wil prevail; error may glare and sparkle, the glowworme may amuse a weary wanderer, but the sun dispels those

and shames their pretences to light. The Socinian cause as wel as Deisme, which hath made so much twinkling and showed so many *ignes fatui*, cannot appear now the light shines out. The liberty they took of writing hath excited others to study the truth, and we are extreamly beholden to one who was branded for a Socinian for two of the solidest and most substantial books against them. I mean Mr. Allix. His last is to prove that the Jews had the same notion of the word &c." Mr. Conway Seymour died on Sunday.

[The SAME] to [the SAME.]

1699, June 27—Mr. Jeffreys and Mr. Duncombe are chosen sheriffs of London, and to the mortification of the Court have given bonds to hold.

[The SAME] to [the SAME.]

1699, July 18—The town are impatient to hear what becomes of the trial of Mr. Cooper at Hertford. This is the day, but it seems to me by the friendship of the undersheriff &c. that the jury will not find the bill.

While Lord Albemarle was at the Hague Lord Portland went to Loo and was received with great ceremony and shew of kindness.

[The SAME] to [the SAME.]

1699, July 25—There is a trial of Mr. Jeffreys against the Bailiff of Brecon upon the new Act, for denying a copy of the poll. It is of great moment to support the energy of that law.

[The SAME] to [the SAME.]

1699, July 29—This week has produced much rain here; if the same be at Brampton, will not you please to order the grounds to be watered, which may produce good "edgrow."

Brother Edward has met with a very light chariot for you which I intended to come down with. He has word sent him that one is making at Brampton. I doubt it will prove heavier than a coach.

[The SAME to the SAME.]

1699, August 1—I hope I shall not give you the trouble of any more letters till God vouchsafes a comfortable meeting. The weather continues moist. It will be a great refreshment to have the meadows watered. I hope the chariot will please you. It is very light and very easy.

EDWARD HARLEY to SIR EDWARD HARLEY.

[16]99, August 3—My brother went out of town this morning in a chariot bought by me. I hope it will be agreeable to you. He purposed to be at Stoke on Friday; he desires the four coach horses with only one pair of the leading harness and long reins may meet him at Leominster on Saturday. I hope to be at Hinton on Saturday. This

evening I hear the Spanish empire is by agreement to be divided. Spain and the Spanish Indies to the Archduke of Austria. Sicily, Naples, Sardinia, and Lorraine to France. Milan to the Duke of Lorraine. Netherlands to the Duke of Bavaria.

NEWSLETTER.

[1699], August 18. Newstadt—After having long expected the Emperor's answer to the invitation that was made him to enter into the treaty of partage, his Imperial Majesty gave it the 17th to the ministers of France and Holland by the Count de Harrach. The Count told M. de Villars and M. Hop by word of mouth and separately that the Emperor considering that the King was in good health and of an age to be able, with God's assistance, to have heirs of his own body, did not think it was fitting for him above any one, who was uncle and nearest-of-kin to his Catholic Majesty, to agree to the division of the succession during his life and before the case happens. That if it happen that his Catholic Majesty dies without children, which the emperor does by no means wish, his Imperial Majesty believes he has the sole right to the entire succession, and in case of the extinction of the male line of Austria, the Duke of Savoy has it according to the disposition in the will of Philip IV. The Count de Harrach added, speaking to the Marquis of Villars, that the Emperor hoped this answer would not interrupt the good intelligence that is between his Imperial Majesty and the Most Christian King, and that his Most Christian Majesty would not proceed to the nomination of a third person. But that if it should happen that his said most Christian Majesty should attempt to take possession of any part of the succession before the King of Spain's death his Imperial Majesty would oppose him. He likewise told M. Hop that the Emperor desired his Britannic Majesty and the States General not to name a third person, and that he did not doubt of the continuation of their friendship and good correspondence.

[HENRY GUY] to [ROBERT HARLEY.]

[1699], August 19—The news of your safe arrival at home was truly welcome to me. I am glad you are so satisfied with the gentleman you called on. He were a jewel if he would consider other people's thoughts as well as his own.

I do not find any cause for the fresh alarm you mention, though no man will venture to judge this age by the rule of reason. However the jealousy is not amiss, for then there can be no mischief by surprise. I have been in doubt of the doctor's journey because of his gout, but now he says he shall go the latter end of next week.

Lord Portland has given up his regiment in Holland. It is said Lord Tankervile is dangerously ill, and that Lord Ferrers has married a young girl, daughter to one Mr. Finch, a merchant, who has no portion.

[The SAME] to [the SAME.]

[1699], September 5—I have acquainted the gentleman with the concern you have that there was any shadow of coolness between you, and that as to the matter itself I should hear more from you. That business is as well as you can desire it for I talk to him much more than I can put into a letter. The opinion of a new Parliament begins to decline. I wish your brother and all your family joy of his son.

[The Same] to [the Same.]

[1699] September 9—"I find you do not take right the whole discourse made by mee to that gentleman, for there was not any thing in the least said that tended to any disrespect from you, but quite the contrary, and that it was out of the deepe respect and true love you had for him to my owne knowledge, that I gave him that little hint which I did of it, which produced that long discourse which I sent you of it, for he was concerned at the least thought of misunderstanding." No one has spoken to him of it but myself. On the whole it will be the better for what is past "and I entreate you to prepare Mr. Paul Foley so that hee may bee, when he comes, to that gentleman as hee was before, for on the whole it will be between yee as well as yee can desire." The paper you gave me was safely delivered "and there is returned to me in answer that the gentleman takes it very kindly from you, and desires that you will resolve to promote and effect what is therein mentioned."

[The Same] to [the Same.]

[1699], September 21—"I have been with our friend in Northamptonshire for this week. You were remembered there with all respect and kindness. As to what you mention of D. Schomberg, I am sure it was never intended to bee, nor will bee of any consequence.

You may remember the discourse you and I had a few days before you left the towne concerning a businesse in Ireland. The cheife lady concerned in that hath beene made acquainted with your very kind expression and resolutions in that matter, and I have order to return to you the utmost thanks for, and just resentment of it."

[The Same] to [the Same.]

[1699], September 28—"Depend upon it that I shall make the right use of that letter with the gentleman, and for your perfect service. He did never take anything ill from you, nor knew nothing—at least as I guesse—till I spake to him of it; for when first you gently touched at it to mee, I then told you I would speake to him in it, which I did in the most gentle manner, believing it for both your services that he should know there was some notice taken of it for that would certainly produce a better understanding for the future. As to the scheme you mention, I protest I have neither heard nor do beleeve a word of it, and do really thinke there hath not beene any mention made to the gentleman of any thing like it, except in that paper which was sent to him, which I told you" was very kindly taken.

H. Pughe to Robert Harley.

[16]99, October 12—Giving him particulars of a charity founded about forty years before at Dorstone [in Herefordshire] by Meredith Madey of London.

The Earl of Galway to William Fowler, in Change Alley, London.

1699, October 21. Dublin Castle—Promising to speak for his past behaviour at Genoa and in Piedmont, and to say how faithfully and diligently he acted for the King's service at Genoa.

Simon Harcourt to Robert Harley, at Brampton.

[16]99, October 25. Essex Street—"Never was any country gentleman's complaisance more surprising or obliging to me than my good friend's lately was. To show my obedience I am to inform you that this morning wee met. That wee are prorogued to the 16th of the next month, and a proclamation out to give us notice wee are then to sit. Against which time I assure myself you'll again break out with your usual splendor from your recent retirement behind a cloud, for the satisfaction and pleasure of your friends, your own honour, and country's safety." This morning George Churchill kissed the King's hand to succeed Sir Robert Rich in the Admiralty. This evening "Lord" Shrewsbury is come to town upon earnest importunities, but I am told will speedily return into the country. *Signet.*

The New River Company.

1699, October 27—"There is a generall Court to be held by the Governors and Company of the New River brought from Chadwell and Arnwell to London, at the New River Office on Tuesday the 14th of November at ten of the clock in the forenoon."
Signed "J. Grene." *Enclosed in the subsequent letter.*

The Earl of Clarendon to Robert Harley.

1699, October 28. London—I send you a summons to our general Court which is to be held on the 14th of next month. "I hope you will be in towne by that time, since the Parliament is to sitt on the 16th. If you are here I believe things may be putt into some order, otherwise I shall despayr of it, and consequently the best improved worke will goe to ruine."

Edward Harley to Sir Edward Harley.

[16]99, October 28. Hinton—"The being parted from so dear and tender a father under an indisposed health was not without a most affecting concern. The account of my brother's recovery and the removal of your indisposition is cause of most humble thankfulnes." The Parliament sitting so suddenly I suppose he will quickly be in town.

Sir R. Cox to ———

1699, October 28, Dublin—"Tho' the opinion of my sincerity would countenance what I am going to say, yett I need not tell you that I am a right Englishman; my history, and indeed the whole course of my life will manifest that. But I can yet goe a step farther, and assure you that though my small fortune is here, and I have not a foot in England, yet I am noe lesse sollicitous for the prosperity of England, than if my whole of my estate lay there.

You may remember upon the first view of Mr. Molineux's book I gave you my thoughts, that the doctrine was false, and unseasonably published, and would have ill consequences.

And as to the Wollen Bill, that I should be for it, if I were convinced England would reap that benefitt by it they expected, which I believed they would not. And I feared the consequences here would be the diminution of the number of the English, which were already fewer

than either Scotts or Irish, and the alienation of our affections, which in time would render the disaffected in the interests of the Scotts, and oblige the well affected to return to England, as I should doe for one. It would follow that whenever England has few freinds here, it would be difficult to reteine this kingdome, and perhaps impossible to recover it.

Since therefore we are related to the people of England, and are even passionately affected towards them, it is not their interest to disoblige or impoverish us, no more then it is ours to provoke or prejudice them.

But what can be more arbitrary, disobliging or unjust than to exercise a judiciall authority over our freeholds, by resuming the forfeitures, and depriving very many English Protestant purchasers *bonâ fide* and for valuable consideration of their legall titles? If you answer me with the votes of Parliament and King's speech; I must reply that the purchasors know nothing of it, nor are bound by law to any other caution, than to take care that their title be lawfull. They are not bound to inquire after interlocutory votes or speeches, which not being of record vanish with the session, and are altogether voyd as to a third person.

I depend therefore upon the justice of that august assembly, that there will be no resumption, least it might render property precarious, for what assurance can you have that another session may not resume the grants of Queen Elizabeth and King James the First? They will rather—as I think—find some other way, by selling the forfeitures undisposed, and by selling to the purchasers an Act of confirmation, to rayse such a fund as may discharge the transport ships, without retrospect of what is already disposed of, or disturbing any man's just title. And perhaps a few yeares will convince you that you must not only take as much care of our properties as your owne, but also that it is your interest to unite and incorporate us with England, for that by that meanes the English interest will be always prevalent here, and the kingdome as secure to you as Wales or any county in England. Your taxes will be lessened when we beare part of the burden. Your force will be augmented, especially at sea. Your fleet when one squadron of it hath its station at Kinsale, will have double the effect upon any enemy it has now; all our money will still center at London, and our trade and communication with England will be soe considerable that we shall think our selves at home when there; and where one goes thither now, ten will goe, when all our business is transacted in your Parliament, to which if we send sixty-four knights for our thirty-two counties, and ten Lords and six Bishops, they may spend our money but cannot influence your councills to your disadvantage."

E. Reed to William Thomas.

[16]99, November 6, Walford—Enclosing a copy of a libel written by William Davies dated Hereford, January 25th, 1698[-9] and headed "William Davies his legacy to all those villains of Leintwardine, perjured rogues and knights of the post, Janizaries, bulldogs, setting dogs, butchers, and jackalls. *Signet.*

Edward Harley to Sir Edward Harley.

[16]99, November 11. Lincoln's Inn—I got safely here last night. It was a great satisfaction to receive a letter written with your own hand.

[Robert Harley] to [Sir Edward Harley.]

1699, November 16—This day we met. The King's speech was long. I am greatly afflicted concerning the news from Stoke.

[The Same] to [the Same.]

1699, November 18—This is a sore blow to Church and State, to Herefordshire and to all relations. It is a public loss.

Mr. Howe made a long speech to the King for the dissenters. He talked of the balance of Europe &c., but did not gain the applause Dr. Bates used to have. Mr. Montagu was yesterday sworn auditor and Mr. Hill admitted to the Treasury.

Edward Harley to Sir Edward Harley.

[16]99, November 18—The death of so good a friend and person whose worth and abilities render it a public loss, cannot but be very affecting. Several persons pretend to make an interest in Hereford. Clerk, by encouragement from Lord Coningsby, is gone down. Mr. J. Jeffreys pretends to set up, Mr. J. Morgan absolutely declines it. Sir J. Williams is thought most likely to carry it.

I suppose you hear that Mrs. Cholmley is gone to rest.

Sir Richard Cox to ——

1699, November 25. Dublin—"I was just told now, that the Parliament Commissioners will report something to the prejudice of the judges, as to the Court of Claymes, and that 'tis expected that a vote may be obtained to their disadvantage, without giving particular instances or hearing them.

But as such a piece of injustice is not to be suspected, soe I think they have not so much as a colour for any such attempt, for unlesse some obscure fellow of no creditt has sworn against us, we cannot find that after the strictest scrutiny they could make, they have any one instance wherein any of us have been faulty. What is but common justice they may call favouring of the Irish, and a lessening of the forfeitures; and we can't help that. We gott nothing but trouble and censure by that Court of Clayms; and if the justice we adminstred there will distinguish us and preserve us from the destroying angell when he comes to punish the oppressions and perjuryes, notorious and publick, committed against the claimants, it is all the reward we desire or expect for that service.

Sure if there should be any attempt to scandalize us in generall reflexions, there will be some freinds found in the House that will obtaine the favour and justice to be heard before we be censured.

I am not conscious of any objection but one, and that is that we heard near one hundred clayms in a day and upon short notice, for at first we heard noe clayms but what were posted fourteen days, but when some malicious buisy bodys at Kilkenny, and elsewhere, had indicted severall poore tradesmen at the assizs, all the poore inhabitants of Limerick, Kerry, Conaught, Clare &c. to the number of many hundreds came up to Dublin and put in their claimes. We consulted the Government and then told them, that it was not designed to give them any trouble who had noe estates, and that such might go home. They answered no, and that they should be indicted whenever it pleased a malicious neighbour, unless they had their adjudications. We thought eight days posting their

claims was enough in these cases, and having first made every one of them disclaime any estate, which was endorsed on their claime, and being fully satisfyed by the protestant recorders of the townes, and by other gentlemen, and, when we had the least suspicion, by oath, that they had noe estates, we despatched them upon one or two oaths, whereas in case of estate we usually required three or four witnesses, and soe we adjudged three or four hundred of them in all, amongs whitch I defy them to name any one person that had ten pound per annum to forfeit. However this serves to make a noise, where the circumstances of the case are not knowne."

2nd December 1699—"I am credibly told, that though the Parliament Commissioners have not found one instance in any of the judges &c. yet they report in generall that the forfeitures have been mismanaged, and in short, that the whole affair hath been mysterious and irregular, that the claymes have been determined without legall commission &c.

All that will be desired will be, that partyes concerned may be heard before they be condemned, and that being a piece of common justice, surely will not be denyed. We are told from other hands, that 'tis not fitt any one of Irish birth should be intrusted in a province, but sure those that say soe drive too fast, in the meane time you that are fixed upon solid foundations of *terra firma* in England &c. may hence rayse a use of consolation, that you are not in circumstances so precarious as those of." *Incomplete.*

Edward Harley to Sir Edward Harley.

[16]99, November 28—Letters are come from my brother Nat dated in August. By the death in Cyprus of Mr. "de Bovery" son of Sir Edward, and the return of his brother to England, the most considerable business in that factory or as some say that any man that ever went out of England ever had there, is fallen to my brother.

[Robert Harley] to [Sir Edward Harley.]

1699, November 28—To the same effect as the preceding letter.

Thomas Musgrave to Robert Harley.

1699, November 30. Aleppo—Thanking him for recommending him to his brother Nathaniel Harley, who was the man of the greatest honour and reputation in all the factory.

[Robert Harley] to [Sir Edward Harley.]

1699, December 2—"Yesterday in a committee upon trade was started a complaint that one Captain Kidd was commissioned under the Great Seal of England to go against pyrates at Madagascar &c. That several great men were to have shares with him, amongst whom the pyrates goods were to be divided, whereas by law they are to be restored to the owners. This Kidd turned pyrate as he had been before. It is said the Great Seal and others are concerned in it."

[The Same] to [the Same.]

1699, December 5—I pray God direct the proceedings of Parliament to-morrow for the glory of his name and the good of this poor nation which is devoured by its inhabitants.

LORD GODOLPHIN to ROBERT HARLEY.

[16]99, December 7—I restore the book you lent me. "The strength of the argument in the matter relating to the Archbishop's power of depriving a bishop, seemed to mee to be of one side, but it must be own'd the strength of votes was much greater against us."

—— to ROBERT HARLEY, at Westminster.

[16]99, December 9, at Colonel Fleming's, at Stoneham, Southampton—"I left you word on Tuesday that I designed for Hampton but I have altered my minde in the affair prepareing to be done there. Registrar Moumpesson makes a mighty bustle against Mr. Metford Crow and Mr. Adam De Cardinall (Decardonnell) who are likewise candidates. The first stands fairest, haveing had longer time and better opportunitys and higher recommendations than the others. Besides hee's wonderfully obsequious and passionately attentive in his applications, as if his all depended thereon. In what quiver he stands an arrow is well knowne by the party of his abettors, and I believe he will finde considerable rubbs in his carreer."

[EDWARD HARLEY] to SIR EDWARD HARLEY.

[16]99, December 12—The dislike to Dr. "Cerr" encreases among the London ministers. It is fomented by some that have a particular prejudice to him. They have agreed to set up "Mr. Spademan and Mr. Ofield" to teach academic learning.

The Irish Commissioners are arrived at Chester, they have great quarrels among themselves. However they have signed the report relating to the forfeitures. Upon the debate this day of the allowance to the Prince of Denmark many severe speeches were made against the Bishop of Salisbury who is preceptor to the Duke of Gloucester, in which his "conquering look" was not forgot.

ROBERT HARLEY to SIR EDWARD HARLEY.

1699, December 16—On private affairs.

[The SAME] to [the SAME.]

1699, December 26—I am sorry my brother must have so sudden a journey up again. There are no letters yet from Aleppo. Sir James Hulton tells me my brother's business now will be "near half as much as the whole factory beside." Mr. Swayne says the coming of the Sultan towards Constantinople will increase trade in these parts.

The DUKE OF NEWCASTLE to his cousin [ROBERT HARLEY].

[16]99–1700, January 4—Asking him to be present at the report of the Committee of Elections between Sir Francis Molyneux and Mr. Rayner.

[ROBERT HARLEY] to SIR EDWARD HARLEY.

1699–1700, January 6th—"I hope the Lord hath rebuked your distemper and restored to a greater degree of health."

[The Same] to [the Same.]

1699–1700, January 11th—It has pleased God to lay a great load upon me, and the heavier since the loss of so good a friend. This week has been very difficult. I think I have not exceeded four hours sleep. I bless God I am well and now the Irish Bill is agreed and finished to be presented to-morrow.

The broils in Scotland are influenced from ————. I hope it will prevented embroiling England.

Edward Harley to Sir Edward Harley.

[16]99[–1700], January 13. Lincoln's Inn—The parting from so dear a relation [as yourself] was not without concern. I came here to-day from Maidenhead, and found the house engaged in a warm debate about pointing the report from the Irish Commissioners, which, containing severe reflections upon particular persons, some of which were members of the House, it was thought hard that an accusation should be made public before the accused had the opportunity of clearing themselves.

[Robert Harley] to [Sir Edward Harley.]

1699–1700, January 18—This has been a week of great labour and hurry. There was a design, which is still carrying on in the other House, to engage the House in the Scots affair of Darien. It has hitherto miscarried.

There is now a prospect that the Irish forfeitures will be applied to the public, which may possibly amount to 1,600,000*l.*

[The Same] to [the Same.]

1699–1700, January 27—I am sorry to hear that you have any cold. The Duke of Beaufort is dead at Badminton.

Edward Harley to Sir Edward Harley.

[16]99–1700, January 30—No letter being received yesterday from Brampton we are in great concern to hear of your health.

There seems to be a resolution in the House to lay a very high duty upon all the wrought silks and stuffs imported from India, which if not prevented will eat up our manufactures, and also to take off the duties upon our woollen manufactures exported.

[The Same] to the Same.

[16]99–1700, February 3— The continuance of your illness is the cause of the greatest concern.

[Robert Harley] to [Sir Edward Harley.]

1699–1700, February 8—There was an attempt yesterday touching the growth of Popery here and the encouragement of Protestants abroad. I pray God give it good success.

Cousin Foley intends to write to you about St. Peter's at Hereford, which the Dean has resigned. There is an additional maintenance left by my uncle to that church, to be purchased by the annual profit of certain tithes.

Edward Harley to Sir Edward Harley.

1690–1700, February 24th—The return of your indisposition is of most affecting concern. Letters are come from Aleppo dated in December last; Mr. Musgrave has written to his father acknowledging my brother's great kindness to him. Sir Christopher often speaks of you with the greatest respect.

Mr. Colt was yesterday discharged from his place of collector of the customs. The House of Lords yesterday passed the bill for incorporating the old East India Company. Great endeavours were used to baffle it. The bill for prohibiting the wearing of Indian manufactures is also passed.

Dr George Hickes to [Robert Harley].

1699–1700, February 29. Oxford—"I find these Athenians much given to newes, and have heard more here in three days than I heard in a moneth in London. One would think to talk with some of them that they had secret correspondence at Court and with the members of both Houses, and one piece of newes amongst them is that you are to have a new speaker and that Mr. Harley will succeed in the Chair. They mention you with great respect and I could not but expresse my joy at the newes, and wish for your sake and my countrys that it may prove true, though I should be a great sufferer by it in loosing the benefit of your conversation."

I received many favours a year ago from a gentleman of your house, Mr. Francis Gwyn, particularly that great one of recommending me and my undertaking to your protection, for which I owe him many thanks. I have been many times to his house in Scotland Yard to pay them but was never so fortunate as to find him at home.

[Robert Harley] to [Sir Edward Harley.]

1699–1700, February 29—I bless God that I hear your health is somewhat better.

I am very glad "my wife and little ones were not in town this week. I doubt they would have been frightened, for on Tuesday a great rabble of pretended soldiers and seamen were got together to the House door, Court of Requests, Westminster Hall, &c., on pretence of a Bill about their pay—tho' not a farthin is due to them. While we were in solemn debate about the revenue, a member as they say, came to them and told them they must fall upon Mr. Harley, and this with other vilaini to stir them up, set them in a tumult, they would have forc'd their way in. The Justices of the Peace were sent for; they instead of dispersing the mob seized the members footmen. The House rose about six or seven. And I went through them all, drawn up from one end of the Hall to the other, rather than go the back way, I thank God without any hurt or word spoken. They pretended to threaten to pull down my house. There was one fellow taken who proved to be no soldier. He encorag'd them to kill the first Parliament man they met. I now trouble you with this to prevent any false report may be spread."

[The Same] to [the Same.]

1699–1700, March 5—My sister's letter received yesterday, of your indisposition was a most affecting providence. I would not desire my wife's coming up and the little ones while they can pay any part of duty to you, or make up for my absence. I trust that a few weeks will put an end to the session and then I might come down with them after the children have seen London for a fortnight or three weeks. For I would hasten down immediately and would not stay now, were it not that this is the critical time of the session. "Al their arts are using towards ruining al hath been done by derision, lyes, and other usual methods. This day the sham Union Bill with Scotland was flung out without a division."

War is broken out between Denmark and Holstein, so here are five young Princes engaged, namely the Kings of Denmark and Sweden, the Duke of Holstein, the Czar of Muscovy and the King of Poland.

Charles Cornewall to Robert Harley, at Westminster.

1699–1700, March 6. Berrington—Announcing his attention of standing at the next election for Herefordshire.

[Robert Harley] to [Sir Edward Harley.]

1699–1700, March 7—I hope this will find you so well recovered as to permit my wife to come up next week.

[Edward Harley] to [Sir Edward Harley.]

[16]99[–1700], March 7—Expressing his regret that he and his brother cannot come down to their father.

[Robert Harley] to [Sir Edward Harley.]

1699–1700, March 9—I think it would be troublesome and dangerous to bring up a foot boy who has not had the small-pox.

The Duke of Leeds to [Robert Harley].

1699[–1700], March 12.—On behalf of Mrs. Wandeford and Dr. Lesly.

[Robert Harley] to [Sir Edward Harley.]

1699–1700, March 14—"Lord Clarendon's memoirs are coming out. There are some letters, &c. and confirmed by Sir Stephen Fox that General Monck agreed to and pressed the selling of Dunkirk because Sir E. H[arley] was timid. An account of that and Earl Maclesfield proposal would be very acceptable."

[The Same] to [the Same.]

1699–1700, March 16—I do not know how to send to Mr. Popham for Miss Mary, because I know not where he is removed. I hope soon to come down and wait upon you.

[The Same] to [the Same.]

1699–1700, March 19—I hope we shall all come speedily to Brampton. Yesterday we carried the clause to exclude the excise men out of the House.

[Sir Edward Harley] to Robert Harley.

[16]99–1700, March 19—"Your letters are great cordials. It pleased God yesterday to visit me with pain and faintness, goutish and scorbutick; thro' a mercy, this day is vouchsafed more favorable, and if it be the will of the Lord to spare a little longer that I may again enjoy you."

I shall be glad to see the memoirs you mentioned "but as concerning your friend once at Dunkirk the sum of what he can say concerning himself is summed up in the 70 Psalm, 'we spend our years like a tale that is told.' If the Lord please to spare his poor worm an account shall be endevored for you concerning that affair what you mencion concerning the Earl of Maclesfeld's offer of 10,000*l*. It is what many witnesses in several places and upon several occasions have heard his Lordship fully express with undeserved regard and kindness to the then governor of Dunkirk. What is said to be spoken by the Lord Generall Monck in relation to Colonel H[arley] and Dunkirk hath many attestations, but 'tis hoped that without mistake it may be averred that the Earl of Montague was told by King Charles that he would not have parted with Dunkirk if he could have been permitted to retain Colonel Harley in that post, which he would have preserved for his Majestie without extraordinary charge, but said the King 'I am continually disturbed because he is represented to be a notorious Presbyterian' I shall not at this time add more upon that subject."

I think it is not best at this present time to bring hither any of the children from Bourton.

[Robert Harley] to [Sir Edward Harley.]

1699–1700, March 23—I suppose my wife and little ones will have begun their journey before this can arrive. I hope a very little while will bring us safe down to Brampton.

[Edward Harley] to [Sir Edward Harley.]

1700, March 30—I hope you are now free from the indisposition you were under when my sister left Brampton. It is a great mercy they had no more mischief by the overturn of the coach.

I suppose the Parliament will rise next week. The King returned a very soft answer to the address of the House of Commons concerning Justices of the Peace.

[Robert Harley] to [Sir Edward Harley.]

1700, April 6—This day the Lords agreed to make amendments to the Irish Bill. I need not mention the consequence to the nation and the very Constitution. The House is thin, but I trust God will dissipate this black cloud. "It takes up all our thoughts."

[The Same] to [the Same.]

1700, April 13—I gave an account of God's mercy to the public at the end of the session. Everyone discovers more and more the danger and the wonderfulness of the rescue. So many minute things were ordered by the hand of God to come between us and ruin. The King goes to Hampton Court next week.

The Same to the Same.

1700, April 16—Every day shows more and more the greatness of the divine mercy in our deliverance in passing the Bill. Sir E. Seymour who is going for Ireland went to wait on the King and told him he had come to congratulate him on the greatest deliverance God had ever given him.

[The Same] to [the Same.]

1700, April 18—Regretting to hear of his renewed indisposition.

[The Same] to [the Same.]

1700, April 20—Yesterday brother Edward began his journey. There is now a prospect of a change. The Duke of Shrewsbury is to be at Hampton Court on Monday. Lord Clarendon's book is in the press. That of Dunkirk is wanting.

F. Fulford to Edward Harley, at Lincoln's Inn.

1700, April 20. Hinton—Enclosing a letter from Mr. Elliot concerning his candidature for the borough [of St. Germans ?].

[Robert Harley] to [Sir Edward Harley.]

1700, April 23—All things here are in great fluctuation. I hope soon to return to the country.

[The Same] to [the Same.]

1700, April 25—I hope very speedily to pay my duty to you in the country. The Lord Chancellor is gone this day to Hampton Court, which is the first time he has seen the King since this day month.

[The Same] to [the Same.]

1700, April 30—You have had the account of the Lord Chancellor having the seal taken from him. Lord Jersey came on Friday for it. He was forced to return for a warrant, which he brought on Saturday and then received the seal. Yesterday Lord Chief Justice Holt was at Hampton Court and had an offer of the seal, and time till Thursday to give his answer.

Mr. Cooper had an appeal of murder brought. The sheriff destroyed the writ and the time is expired.

The Earl of Rochester to [Robert] Harley.

1700, May 1---Asking to be allowed to wait upon him.

[Francis Gwyn] to Robert Harley

1700, May 4—I had the great piece of news on the 29th at Sir Edward Seymour's, being with him to take my leave before his Irish journey which he began on Thursday. He stayed a week at Ragley on the way. It was a matter of consequence and must have great effects let some of their struggles be never so violent; but notwithstanding, our animosities are in daily expectation of being satisfied in the successors. The behaviour of our friend is no news to me, and I am sure you need no assurance from me that you will always find him so, that is like himself and like what he truly is; but the particulars at this moment I am a stranger to.

[Robert Harley] to [Sir E. Harley.]

1700, May 9—It pleases God that the Attorney General cannot yet be prevailed with, and I see little hopes now of it. I pray God direct this poor nation. This is so surprising a thing that I do not know what to say. It looks at present very untowardly.

[The Same] to [the Same.]

1700, May 11—This has been a week of great fatigue. I have every day been with the Attorney General twice. At last he will not take it, which is a very great disappointment to all who wish well.

[The Same] to [the Same.]

1700, May 14—This is a very troublesome as well as busy time to me, and the concern is greater, being destitute of friends to advise with. The Duke of Shrewsbury will be Groom of the Stole and go Lord Lieutenant to Ireland. In that mind he has gone into the country The Attorney's obstinacy is very prejudicial and unaccountable.

Lord Coningsby to Robert Harley.

1700, May 24.—I have to desire the lists I left with you, being to give them in before I go into the country. I hope you have made such alterations and additions as you thought necessary.

[Robert Harley] to [Sir Edward Harley.]

1700, May 18—It is necessary to be satisfied in one's duty or else all the lower rewards would not hire me to run such another month. I trust God has at last directed to what is best for the present circumstances, or that could be had. I hope now to be hastening out of town.

[The Same] to [the Same.]

1700, May 25—I trust your health is continued in this severe cold weather with a searching east wind. The Lord Keeper is recovering. Lord Privy Seal will "lay down," being ill at Bath. The Duke of Shrewsbury writes that his ill health will not permit him to go to Ireland.

[The Same] to [the Same.]

1700, May 28—"I have another summons, I implore direction and wisdome from on high." The new Lord Keeper with the assistance of some judges found that by law a new writ could not be granted against Mr. Cooper in the case of the appeal.

Riga is relieved so that there seems a fair way to a peace in the North.

[Sir Christopher Musgrave] to [Robert Harley.]

1700, May 30—"Is it not ominous to chuse a Lord Keeper from the Gravel Pits? None but great men can have the favour of Dr. Radcliff, he hath treated mee in that manner that no phisitian would have done to the meanest patient, in relation to my poor daughter who continues languishing. If ever anything be displeasing it is the constant practice to lay it at the door of their predecessors. It seems want of health permits not the Duke to visit Ireland, and indisposition will not allow another to officiate. His great attack in April last overheated him, and if a color is wanting the mountains now are cloathed in white. You being a wise man enlighten your friend with the cause that persons must be courted to great places.

[Robert Harley] to [Sir E. Harley.]

1700, June 1—We do not hear how affairs are like to go in Scotland. I must own that it is not of any great weight in my poor judgment. I fear ourselves more than any others.

Edward Harley to Sir Edward Harley.

1700, June 1—I came safe here last night. My brother is very well. He has been of great service at this time. "The person that uses to ask for you has treated him with great regard. Some further attentions are talked off, but nothing of that kind resolved upon."

[Robert Harley to] [Sir Edward Harley.]

1700, June 11—I bless God that I hear you go out into the air. Tomorrow I am to go out of town as mentioned formerly. The Scotch affairs look worse than they did.

[The Same] to [the Same.]

1700, June 13—"I was, as commanded, at ———, return'd this morning."

The Scotch Parliament will be adjourned for about ten or fourteen days more for the King to consider what to do. A pirate has been taken in the West Indies by one of our men-of-war.

[The Same] to [the Same.]

1700, June 15—I hoped I should be coming out of town before this, but am under a command to stay. I hope it will quickly determine. I pray God direct and keep a poor worm sensible of his weakness, and supported by the power and wisdom which is from above.

Edward Harley to Sir Edward Harley.

1700, June 15—"I find the person mentioned in my former has a fair character. His estate is variously represented. Some say 8,000*l.*, some 6,000*l.*, some 4,000*l.* What he has is of his own acquisition. He offers to settle her portion and to leave it to her election to take that or the thirds of his estate according to the custom of the Citty. It's insisted that the portion and as much more should be settled."

The state of Scotch affairs is under great difficulties. It is said the Parliament there will be adjourned for some time and endeavours will be used to stay the violent spirit that now rages.

Sir William Trumball to [Robert Harley].

1700, June 18. Easthampstead—I hope another ill effect besides what you mention, may not happen upon the treaty for dividing the Spanish territories, which is that France may by this means debauch the allies both from England and the States. I waited upon the King last week as he came hunting in this forest, "and in spite of the Scots I never saw him merrier or in better humour. For Gallio careth for none of these things."

George Follet to Robert Harley.

1700, June 22—Informing him that he expected to be dismissed from his present employ, and asking his assistance to obtain the secretaryship of the new Commission of Excise.

R. H[enley] to Robert Harley.

[1700, June 22.] Custom House—I make no doubt Mr. Godolphin will do what he can to influence the Receiver General to dismiss Mr. Follet from his present employment and wish a way could be found to put this good man at ease for the future.

[Robert Harley] to [Sir Edward Harley.]

1700, June 25—I bless God my brother is better. I hope he will take the air to-morrow.

The Earl of Romney is Groom of the Stole and Lord Jersey, Chamberlain; but no other places disposed and the Lords Justices the same as last, only the Lord Keeper in the room of Lord Somers and the Earl of Tankervile of Mr. Montagu.

[The Same] to [the Same.]

1700, June 27—My brother slept well last night. There have been two consultations upon the swelling in the King's left leg, but yet he resolves to go next week.

JOHN METHUEN to ROBERT HARLEY.

1700, June 27. Dublin—"I made great hast and came safe and have found the good effect of it by coming time enough to despatch all the business which had suffered in my absence. All the English here are in great concern and aprehension, which would have been much more if I had not come at this time. The trustees carry everything very high and, you may believe me, doe stretch every thred to the extremity. They have made a great attacque on me in the Chancery to require me to stop the traverses on the inquisitions of persons dying in rebellion, but nothing seems so extraordinary to me as the excessive fees they appoint their officers to take.

I have yet had no letters from England, but by what I hear things are very little changed, and that the government and administration I hoped to see settled is yet undetermined. In what concernes us here it does not seem strange that the King defers it, but surely it should have been otherwise in England.

Pray if this find you in town favour me to write what you hope from affairs, and what you think a man may hope here. You will oblige me by sending a little cypher for names, as you promised me, that we may write a little more freely, but our letters come very safe and are never opened here."

[ROBERT HARLEY] to [SIR E. HARLEY.]

1700, July 2—I hope my brother will be in town but a little time and that we shall not continue after him, for yesterday morning I received a sudden summons for last night, and I returned before three this morning. I look up to Heaven for direction.

[The SAME] to [the SAME.]

1700, July 4—I hope we shall all now be moving to Brampton. This morning at six the king took coach at Hampton Court and intends to lie at Mr. Fuller's at Canterbury.

[The SAME] to [the SAME.]

1700, July 6—The King had a fair wind. Nothing at present can appear. I wish everything on the other side of the water prove well.

The Scots are very tumultuous, but that will calm. After doing an extravagant thing they would have England pay their charge.

[The SAME] to [the SAME.]

1700, July 11—There is news that the King landed safe, and his health much better. Lord Macclesfeld is to be married to Mrs. Harborough.

[The SAME to the SAME.]

1700, July 13—There are letters come that the King is very well in Holland and goes in about ten days to Loo. Lord Lonsdale, Lord Privy Seal, has died in the north.

[The Same] to [the Same.]

1700, July 16—My brother began his journey to Brampton to-day. Though the King was ill in his journey and voyage he is now much better.

[The Same] to [the Same.]

1700, July 18—Sir Edward Seymour had a narrow escape a' hunting being very nearly lost in a bog.

[The Same] to [the Same.]

1700, July 25—I am extremely sorry to hear of your indisposition. I mentioned the doctor being against your bleeding, but he says you would find relief by blisters upon your arms, on the inside about the binding. I have now one on each arm from which I have found great relief.

Hampshire.

1700, July 26. Winchester—Presentment by the Grand Jury and Justices of the Peace for Hampshire protesting against the ignorance or corruption of the solicitor Mr. Whittaker who had mismanaged the trial for the murder of one Harris, and also the indictments brought before them relating to the notorious practices of purloining and robbing the King's stores at Portsmouth and timber in the new New Forest. *Copy.*

——— to [Robert Harley].

1700, July 27. Stoneham—Concerning the robbery of stores a Portsmouth.

[Robert Harley] to [Sir Edward Harley.]

1700, July 27—Dr. Radcliffe desires you will not do anything more to your knees and legs than keep them warm. Blisters on your arms will relieve your breast. For the cough, besides the use of such things as conserve of roses, he commends the frequent use of ground ivy leaves made and drunk as tea, sweetened with sugar candy, as also the swallowing a clove of garlic often over night to preserve the stomach against goutish humours.

Here are flying stories that Lord Portland is killed and the Earl of Burlington dead of an apoplexy.

Francis Gwyn to Robert Harley.

1700, July 29. Ford Abbey—I am not a little satisfied to hear you so full of my noble friend. I always told you he deserved it. There is none, or was in the last age, like him. His honour and understanding are both certainly to be trusted. And no obligations should have induced me to say those things of him but that I am fully convinced by experience.

[Robert Harley] to [Sir Edward Harley.]

1700, July 30—I earnestly desire to come down to Brampton, and will not stay a day after the doctor and surgeon have released me.

"The Duke of Gloucester danced on his birthday, was ill the next. Fryday, Dr. Harnes ordered him to be let blood and blistered. He had some spots, had eat fruit, small-pox was suspected." He died this morning at one o'clock. God's ways are unsearchable.

[The Same to the Same.]

1700, August 1—It was a great refreshment yesterday to receive three lines under your own hand.

The death of the Duke of Gloucester puts many upon various discourses. It was a malignant form, and so high that his little body turned green and yellow immediately. He will be brought to town in the King's barges, lie in state in the Prince's lodgings near the House of Lords, and be interred to-morrow week.

—— to Robert Harley, at the Golden Bar in Boswell Court near Temple Bar.

1700, August 3. Stoneham—There is nothing new in these parts. The Grand Jury and Justices when they delivered their presentment desired it might be read and it was so, Whittaker being present, which required a confirmed resolution in those gentlemen.

[Robert Harley] to [Sir Edward Harley.]

1700, August 6—"My sholders are extream sore and at presint offensive til the escars come out." I trust God will give us a speedy meeting.

[Edward Harley] to Robert Harley, at Lincoln's Inn.

1700, August 10—Last night I returned from Hereford and found my father much better.

John Methuen to Robert Harley.

1700, August 10. Dublin—"I am here in very nice circumstances, but being satisfyed the King's service would have suffered much if I had not come over, I am very well satisfyed that I came. You will easily believe the English here are in very ill humour and with little temper, but you will hardly conceive to what degree their uneasiness goes. In truth almost every one suffers by your act, and suffers by what might have been prevented without loss, I mean as tenants. The trustees have seemed to carry all points very farr and been the occation hat many more putt in clayms than were intended by the act. This being the last day I hear there are about two thousand five hundred.

[Robert Harley] to [Sir Edward Harley.]

1700, August 15—God is very gracious to poor Tabby. It proves the measles and very full. She is very cheerful. They begin to die upon her. Dr. Radcliffe is very glad it is the measles, the symptoms being bad for the small-pox.

[The Same] to [the Same.]

1700, August 17—Dr. Radcliffe thinks the wine of squills too sharp for you. He approves you may sometimes use the oxymel, which is a good medicine.

August 10th was the last day for claims in Ireland. About two thousand five hundred were entered. Lord Halifax is dangerously ill at Acton.

[The Same] to [the Same.]

1700, August 25—It pleased God to visit Betty with the measles. She fell sick on Lords day last. I intend to begin my journey to-morrow towards Brampton.

[Henry Guy] to [Robert Harley.]

[1700,] August 31st—"On Tuesday night late I heard you were not gone out of town, and on Wednesday I came early to your lodgings but you were gone to 250. I followed you thither but found that you were gone but a quarter of an hour before. I hope this will find you safely arrived at home.

Had I met with you I had told you that 483 [Guy] first acquainted 84 at large in what trouble 104 [Harley] went away; but that he could not tell him the particulars, because the secret belonged to others, not to himself; and that if some speedy course were not taken to make up this matter it would be fatal to the whole, and that without it he could not be encouraged to come up; and did agree that 147 [Guy] should acquaint 75 [Sunderland] with what he knew of it, which was only in general that there was such a misunderstanding, and to desire his assistance. From thence 483 [Guy] went to 78 [Godolphin], and said the same to him. They were both extremely startled, and seemed much concerned, laying the blame on 79 [Rochester], for taking such a trivial occasion, but did not say what. 78 [Godolphin] took a direction in writing how to write to 104 [Harley]. I did not find that 104 [Harley] had written to 78 [Godolphin] as he said he would. I wish he had, for the letter would have found 78 [Godolphin] well prepared for it. 147 [Guy] hath written to 75 [Sunderland] on this, so far as was agreed on. I am told yesterday that 79 [Rochester] hath laid his journey quite aside.

483 [Guy] did write last week to 411 [Sunderland] that 103 was against 128. He wrote in answer that 440 [Harley] and his friends may surely have it, if 104 [Harley] be time enough with 67 [the King], and if he makes use of the hopes of 145 by the way so much debated last winter; and likewise if he tells 401, that without 464 he can be of no use, or at least but little, as he hath said before, and may very well do it again. He likewise said that none can hinder 128 [ ] but 106; and that he cannot do it neither if 440 [Harley] pleases and persists in it. This is the opinion of 75 [Sunderland] in that matter.

I have had a letter from 105 about 280 [the Elector], and about 281 [the Electress]. He says that at present he finds no exception to it, and heartily wishes that may serve the turn, but said he thought some provisionary laws may be needful in case of a foreigner, and some other preliminaries. But he was so doubtful of his own judgment that he would remit any determination upon those matters. He said that there was talk of 464, and desired to know the opinion of 483 [Guy] in that matter; to which was written him in answer, that no

judgment could be made of that till 403 [the King] came. But really his thought of provisionary laws is of moment one way or other, and seems that it will either much help or much embarrass the business. His next will be in good humour, for instead of three bucks he hath four sent to him. He doth not seem inclined to 128.

The King, God be thanked, is in good health, and is going his progress to view several fortifications and troops of the United Provinces.

I entreat you to let me know the next post of your receipt of this, and and that you be punctual in acknowledging the receipt of mine, as I will be of yours, for I shall be much in pain if I shall not in reasonable time know that mine are come safely into your hands."

Viscount Weymouth to Robert Harley.

1700, September 3. Longleat—You express great temper and discretion in what you have done for J. H., who I wish may deserve it from you, but his colleague, I rather fear than wish will be Mr. Chester. You know the unspeakable loss we have had in the excellent Lord Halifax, scarce to be repaired.

J. Ellis to [Robert] Harley.

1700, September 3. Whitehall—I send you herewith a translation of the Emperor's answer to the treaty of partage. The Earl of Exeter got his illness by eating a melon at Paris, and it is said lost his life by obstinate or humoursome refusal of Dr. Radcliffe's pills, which he had by him, as I have seen in a letter from a good hand, and the same says they are laying wagers at St. Germains that they shall be called home before Christmas by the Parliament.

[Henry Guy] to [Robert Harley.]

[1700,] September 5—" I hope by to-morrows post I shall have advice from you that you have received my long letter of the 31st past.

This comes to tell you that the difference between 79 [Rochester] and 78 [Godolphin] is entirely made up; and 415 [Rochester] dined yesterday with 414 [Godolphin].

A few days since 84 by directions of 78 [Godolphin] came to 147 [Guy] and told him every particular of the whole matter, and showed him the copy of the letter written to 67 [the King], and likewise the letter to 78 [Godolphin] from 104 [Harley]; 483 [Guy] the next morning went to 420 and 78 [Godolphin] to discourse it with them together, and in gentle terms did insinuate that 415 [Rochester] had an appearance of being right in the matter, and therefore was to be handled tenderly. The next morning 84 went to 79 [Rochester], and managed it so well that it is now fully closed again, with an assurance that what hath passed shall be entirely forgotten on both sides as if no such thing had ever happened. 415 [Rochester] doth not know that the secret of the thing is told to 147 [Guy] by them, nor must ever know it. I dare say you will be truly pleased with this as I am, for without it I do not comprehend which way we should have turned ourselves.

75 [Sunderland] wrote to 79 [Rochester] and 78 [Godolphin] about it; the latter was delivered, but the business being compromised, they

were of opinion that the other should not, because that gentleman is so very nice.

147 [Guy] hath been with 91; he is vigorously for 280 [the Elector]. And by another letter 105 seems as well as can be desired. Pray send somewhat, if you have anything worth it for 147 [Guy] to send to 402 from 440 [Harley]; for you know he must be kept up.

I suppose you hear that poor Lord Halifax is dead at last. We think the King will be here within a month. My Lord Shrewsbury comes to town on Saturday next."

[The Same] to [the Same.]

[1700,] September 7—"I have received yours of the 3rd instant, and did on the 5th instant, send you the good news of the perfect reconciliation of 79 [Rochester] and 78 [Godolphin]; which letter I hope you have received. When you go from home do me the favour to let me know it by a line or two, for then I shall not be concerned though I do not hear of the receipt of mine in a post or two after. I am glad 410 is so well disposed. You acquainted 410 that you had done 105 service. I had thought that 410 had no familiarity with him at all.

I shall give notice to 411 [Sunderland] of what 440 [Harley] says to what was wrote from him.

You may be assured that I burn all your letters when I have read them, as I desire you to do the same by mine.

I have no more to add at present, only that 78 [Godolphin] and 147 [Guy] dined yesterday in the country with the Bishop of Rochester, where the health of 104 [Harley] was most heartily drank.

The word "success" is 151 not 157 as in your last. You mended it in mine before you went hence, but I find by this you did not do it in your own."

J. Ellis to Robert Harley.

1700, September 10. Whitehall—The Pope is not yet dead; the elector of Brandenburg is not yet a King; Riga is not yet like to be taken; so that our advices consist rather of negatives than affirmatives.

The Duke of Shrewsbury is come thither, and dined on Sunday with Mr. Montagu. He is in good health and all things are now settled in relation to his marriage with the Earl of Carbury's daughter. There has been a report of the Earl of Dorset being troubled in his head and attempting upon himself, but I do not find it is true.

[Henry Guy] to [Robert Harley.]

[1700,] September 12—I received yours of the 8th instant. I wrote to you on the 7th which I hope you have received, and in mine of the 5th or of the 7th, I think I owned yours of the 3rd; for as soon as I have read and answered your letters I always burn them. I think I have had but two letters from you and if in yours of the 3rd you sent me an answer to what I wrote to you from 75 [Sunderland] about 145 [ ] to 67 [the King], then I am sure I have had it, for I have written to 411 [Sunderland] what you said upon it.

The reconciliation doth and will hold very perfect. Your letter to 78 [Godolphin] was as well [as] could be, and no doubt had its impression.

I am glad you have dealt so with 90 about 105. I hope you left him very well inclined about 280 [the Elector].

There is nothing to be expected from 87. He meets very often with 77 and 81 privately at the house of 221; 147 [Guy] hath had two conversations with him, but all in generals. He is much for 616 [the Elector], and we believe hath made those last-mentioned of the same disposition.

80 is returned, and hath been extremely kind to 163 [ ], and much approved of what he did about 212 [ ], and did tell them so, in a body, and hath promised a true friendship to 499 [ ], and the same to 124; and declared a public satisfaction with the whole administration of all matters. He professed a wonderful resolution to serve 401 to his utmost power, and a very great friendship to 411 [Sunderland].

[The Same] to [the Same.]

[1700,] September 17—"I received yours of the 10th instant. I wrote to you on the 12th instant, which I hope you have by this time received, 75 [Sunderland] hath ordered 147 [Guy] to acquaint 104 that he would not desire him to engage for 145 [ ], but offer some remote hopes to gain things that are fit, because he fears that right reason alone will scarce prevail. He thinks 128 [ ] will very much strengthen 137, but that that and all things else doth depend upon the being of 440 [Harley] early with 67 [the King]. 483 [Guy] hath written to 401 about the time that 104 [Hurley] shall come, and expects an answer in a few days.

We are now here of opinion that the King may not be in England till the latter end of the next month; as soon as there is any certainty of his coming you shall immediately know it. I never knew before that 74 pretended to any interest in 441. 78 [Godolphin] thanks you for your letter, but doth not answer it because he had nothing to say worth the troubling you."

[The Same] to [the Same.]

[1700,] September 21—"This comes only to acknowledge the receipt of yours of the 15th instant. The receipt of yours of the 10th I advised you in mine of the 17th instant and in my next letter I always tell you of the receipt of yours last sent me.

I have received all those of the 3rd, 8th, and 10th, as you mention. The reason of altering the prorogation to the 24th we suppose to be because the King as we think intends his stay to near that time.

You know 431 as well as any man. He will often say things for true for which there is no foundation but his own wise brain. I am sure 423 [Tankervile] in all his discourses was very far from 526 [the Privy Seal], or anything else, and I believe he hath not the least thoughts of anything whatsoever.

Just as I had written thus far I received yours of the 17th instant. I cannot believe that 87 [Tankerville] will take 526 [the Privy Seal], for after such a denial as he gave one cannot think with what face it can be asked nor can it be given without great reflection upon 67 [the King] having gone so far in it with 79 [Sunderland]. If it should be so the whole measure must be laid aside, which I cannot conceive, for then 77 must return, which is morally impracticable, and without that all the rest of such a measure will signify nothing. And yet I confess it is the only game 136 hath to play, for the disappointment of 415 [Rochester] will do the business. I have a way to sound 423 in

this matter in a short time, which shall be done, I will not say a word of it to 79 [Rochester] nor 78 [Godolphin], for it may do hurt that either of them should know anything of it as yet, it being hitherto but barely suspicion; they being both—though in different kinds— so very nice to be dealt with.

75 [Sunderland] is in the country, and what hath been done with the mother of 221 I know not. But I plainly see that both this and the other business must be done by 104 [Harley] with 401. To speak plainly all must be done by him, for he only will have the power, I mean if the resolution continue, for if it do not, all, both of persons and things will be out of doors. Therefore I beg of 440 [Harley] that he will not be scrupulous, 147 [Guy] hath written to 403 [the King] about the coming of 104 [Harley], and doth look for an answer, though perhaps it may be a fortnight first. But if there should be none I most earnestly conjure 440 [Harley] to be in 197 [London] at that time; for this is beyond standing upon ceremony; all is at stake; and those rules which it may be were proper in lesser occasions must now be laid aside, and it must be plainly seen whether things will go on as was proposed or not; and this must be known at the very first, and this cannot be but by the coming of 440 [Harley]: therefore I beg of him to resolve it so, let what will happen.

I hope it will be no difficult matter to make 163 [ ] in the perfect good opinion of 137.

[The Same] to [the Same.]

1700, September 24—"I received yours of the 20th instant. I most earnestly beg of you to leave off the formality of excusing what you write to me: it is time to quit that between you and I at this time of day.

What you write concerning 443 is neither news nor extraordinary, for how can it be expected otherwise, when we know 106 is as he is? But this signifies nothing, for both 411 [Sunderland] and 78 [Godolphin] and 84 do positively say that 67 [the King] must and will go on, and that without doubt 104 [Harley] will have a summons, and that he must be positive and bold and rely upon his strength, for that will be sufficiently able to do it thoroughly. As to the affront designed to 440 [Harley], I do not comprehend what that can be, for it will be no wonder if 136 endeavour by all means to break what is intended; and much the rather, because they know 104 [Harley] is in it. But for any particular affront, I know not what that can be, and therefore do desire you to explain it. But let it be what it will, it will signify nothing if the main holds; if it do not I assure you the affront will be universal. But I agree with our friends, that all depends on 104 [Harley], and that he will certainly be able to effect it; and if he be *hors de jeu* good night to all. You may as much reckon upon the unalterable friendship and service of 147 [Guy], as upon your own soul, which shall never end but with his last minute of life.

I wrote to you on the 21st instant, which I believe you have by this time received."

Viscount Weymouth to Robert Harley.

1700, September 24. Longleat—I am solicited to assist Sir John Williams in his pretensions for your county, but I am a perfect

stranger to him though he has a good character. I doubt whether my cousin Stephens will be prevailed with to stand, and I am not sure J. H. is at liberty to join with him, for I hear his cousin Chester will offer himself, and in that case relation will go a great way. For my own part I think no man fitter than Mr. Stephens. How far the next session will concern themselves is very uncertain, but nothing is plainer than that their utmost prudence is necessary to give us some consistency, which God grant, to support a sinking trade not to say nation.

[HENRY GUY] to [ROBERT HARLEY.]

[1700,] October 1—"I received yours of the 24th past. As to the credit of 431 with 67 [the King], time must do that, and it will be a consequence if the rest is put on a right foundation.

In my last of the 24th past, I gave you my opinion of 443, which can never be well whiles under the power of 106; he is the only person that obstructs all. I have frequent accounts of it, and is ten times more dangerous than 95; this particular will be worthy your consideration what is to be done in it. Besides the whole may not be so much as is represented to you, for you may judge that since the business of 77, 402 would make 472 as easy as he can, and therefore may have directed 107 to have some conversation of that kind; but whether he hath exceeded his commission, as it is believed 442 did, I cannot tell. But I think no apprehension of any accidental circumstance ought to be taken till it is known what 401 will do. All here believe he will continue as he was when 104 [Harley] saw him last, but this is never to be known, at least not so soon as it should be, but by the quick coming at that time of 440 [Harley] to 533 [London]. You may be assured it shall not be pressed without the entire concurrence and desire of 411 [Sunderland], 414 [Godolphin], and 84 and 79 [Rochester]. The three first make it their discourse every day, and think it of absolute necessity; the other did the same before he went out of town, —for he is now with his brother—and I doubt not but he will be of the same mind at his return. 80 hath written to me a wonderful kind letter concerning 163 [ ], and says he will not be an unprofitable friend to him.

When I had written thus far I received yours of the 27th past. As to what you farther write concerning 107 I shall say little at present to it, because as you have directed I shall consult 75 [Sunderland], 415 [Rochester], 78 [Godolphin], and 420 upon it, as soon as they come to town, for at present they all are out of it. Only I shall offer this, that there may be circumstances which may mitigate it in some measure as to what it appears now to you. But be it how it will, I conceive the coming of 104 [Harley] necessary, for if that be done at his coming that should be, it is well, and worth his journey; if it be not done, he will never know whether it will or no but by coming, at least not near so soon as will be absolutely necessary to take measures upon it.

As to losing credit with 137, I think that is in no danger. For first it may be all denied; next if owned, he never went but when sent for to settle that matter, which hath been so long labouring, and under no other conditions, besides the justification that will be of this by the four friends above mentioned. But I shall refer all to the opinion of those four.

411 [Sunderland] writes that though 136 may desire 190 [the Privy Seal] for 87 [Tankerville], yet he is confident that he will not give in to it.

Just when I had finished this last line, I received a letter from 140, wherein 147 [Guy] is ordered that to be sure he writes to 104 [Harley] so timely, that he be at 197 [London] with the first that 67 [the King] is here. I am so overjoyed that I cannot express it, for I am sure now that all is right; and to confirm this there was a report that the son of 163 [ ] would be put from where he is, by the means of 106 to make room for 271. Upon which a few days since 483 [Guy] wrote a very smart letter to 476 about it, and 401 hath now bid him be assured that it shall not be done. From all this I am entirely satisfied that whatever 107 hath done is not known by 403 [the King], and which if it be so he may in due time sufficiently feel. The King intends to be here in three weeks from the 26th of September. For the sake of God I beg of 440 [Harley] to be at 533 [London] in the time appointed. I am sure he will now think it not only reasonable but decent and necessary to be so.

Upon the poll for Lord Mayor Sir Charles Duncombe hath carried it to be one of the two to be presented to the Alderman, by 833 votes. Sir Samuel Dashwood had 1110, Sir Charles Duncombe 2752, Sir Thomas Abney 1919, and Sir William Hodges 1907. We verily believe he will have it with the Aldermen; the Alderman to whom I desired you speak I hear is very perverse in it.

The business of 108, if it go right, will be a great help to keep 67 [the King] so. I have made this letter long enough, and therefore will say no more."

[The Same] to [the Same.]

[1700,] October 3—"In my long one of the 1st instant, which I hope you have received, I gave you an account of Sir Charles Duncombe's poll, but when it came to the Court of Aldermen yesterday Abney carried it from him by two votes. However, my opinion is that the Common Hall is the sure demonstration of the mind and temper of the City, which seems unchanged from 136. Nothing laboured more than 77 and 81 have done in this busines. There are great animosities in the City about it.

In mine of the 1st I acquainted you that 67 [the King] doth positively desire that 104 [Harley] would be at 197 [London] when he comes."

I have no more to add.

[The Same] to [the Same.]

[1700,] October 8—"I have received yours of the 4th instant. That person whom you mention to have written those letters, and belongs to 107, I know to be a pragmatical meddling coxcomb, and I know in another case where he hath written what fell from his master in loose discourse at the table; but as you say this and all else will be cured by the steadiness of 67 [the King]. 104 [Harley] hath reason enough to be startled at such particulars, for he is not used to such tricks, as some of his friends have been. 147 [Guy] doth find by a line in a letter from 80, that he is not at present satisfied with 464 [ ]. It is want of being rightly informed and laziness that he would not have the trouble of it, but he can never be set right by a letter, it must be by personal discourse. I believe he will be here in Michaelmas Term.

78 [Godolphin] and 79 [Rochester] will be in town this week, and 84 is here now, and is absolutely of opinion, and so is 483 [Guy], that

440 [Harley] should be at 197 [London], three or four days before 401, that is by the 18th or 20th of this month at the farthest, that he may have full time to consult with all his friends, what is to be said to and done with 403 [the King] ; and this I hope he will absolutely resolve on. 147 [Guy] would gladly know the day and hour he thinks to be here, because he would be at the lodgings the minute of his arrival, or else will stay at his own house for him, if he thinks it more convenient to call as he comes by. 420 desires he should know that all in Oxfordshire are in as he desired. But three of 168 have made any fair report.

We certainly believe that the King will be here by the 23rd of this month, if not sooner. I am confident 87 [Tankerville] will not meddle in anything.

The Pope is dead, and I fear the King of Spain is so too by this time ; he hath had the extreme unction, and taken his farewell of the Queen, and a courier was sent to France that he was dead, but next day another was arrived who said he was not dead but was somewhat better, but we doubt he can last but a little while.

Here is a new heat about the Lord Mayor. Duncombe's friends thought themselves sure of thirteen by promises, but when they lost it by one they charged Sir William Gore, who offers to take his oath that he voted for Duncombe, so doth twelve more, and this day they sit to examine closely into the matter. What it will come to I know not, but there are great heats in the City about it.

[Guy] 147 hopes that 440 [Harley] burns all his letters after he hath answered them, as he doth his."

[Thomas Bateman] to [Robert Harley.]

1700, October 8—Letters yesterday from Paris first affirm the death of the King of Spain and then say a courier had arrived with news that he was still alive but no hopes of his recovery. The French are moving by sea and land.

The Pope died on the 27th. The Cardinal Zealots intend to put up Accaioli and Panciatici, and to press forward the election. If they fail it may be a long conclave.

The Same to the Same.

1700, October 10—Powis House being gutted the Lord Keeper hoped it would be repaired by the King. The Treasury directed Sir C. W. to view and estimate what was done ; but the Treasury not sitting and the winter drawing on, Sir C. ventured to set on workmen to tile and whitewash, for which he was this day reprimanded at the Treasury and ordered to desist till the King's pleasure be further known. Their Lordships say they know not whether it be the King's house or not, but the Lord Keeper in the meantime gets the worst of it. He is in the house himself though it rains into it.

[Henry Guy] to [Robert Harley.]

[1700,] October 12—" I send this to acquaint you that the letters are come which tell us that the King was to be at the Hague on Thursday last, and that he will set sail for England on Thursday next, so that we may reasonably expect him at Kensington this day seven-night.

79 [Rochester] is come to town, and hath directed to tell 104 [Harley] that it is entirely necessary that he be at 197 [London] two or

three days before, to advise with him and others about all concerning 67 [the King]. 78 [Godolphin] comes to town on Monday, and will certainly be of the same mind; for in mine of the 8th you already known that 84 is so. Therefore I hope by the next post 147 [Guy] shall know whether he shall attend 440 [Harley] at his house, or at the lodgings of 440 [Harley] the first night. The time is very short, therefore I have covered this to the postmaster as was directed, that it may make the more haste.

75 [Sunderland] doth think that the matter of 107 hath not any considerable weight in it.

103 the other day asked 483]Guy] when 104 [Harley] would come; he answered that he knew not; but that he said when he went hence, that he feared his business of the water would bring him up a little before the term. 439 did not know any concern he had in the water till it was now told him him; this was received right, and I think this may be continued to all enquiries.

I entreat you most pressingly that I may hear from you of the time by the next post. I wrote to you on the 3rd and 8th instant; the last I had from you was of the 4th instant."

[The SAME] to [the SAME.]

[1700,] October 15—"I received yours of the 11th instant. I hope 104 [Harley] will be here the latter end of this week, and that 483 [Guy] shall know by to-morrow's post what hour and when he shall attend his arrival. 78 [Godolphin] is come, and is entirely of the opinion of his meeting his friends a day or two before he meets the other. This day 79 [Rochester], 84 [ ], and 414 [Godolphin], do meet to confer about everything against they see 440 [Harley].

The King doth now come aboard for England to-morrow, so that in all probability he will be at Kensington on Friday next. It is thought 278, 531 may in some measure influence matters, especially in 128 [ ]; because that accident may not bear delay.

Our last letters say the King of Spain is better, having slept well and his looseness entirely diminished.

I wrote on the 12th, and did cover it to Mr. Seward, because I thought it required haste.

I shall add no more now being in hopes of seeing 104 [Harley] immediately."

The SAME to the SAME.

[1700,] October 17—"I have no occasion to say anything by this post, but to acquaint you that 104 [Harley] in his last, which was on the 11th instant, did tell 147 [Guy], that by the next post he should know the time that 440 [Harley] would be in 197 [London]; but 483 [Guy] received none from him by last night's post, which doth give him some anxiety; but he hopes he shall not fail of one by to-morrow's post, and that 104 [Harley] may be now upon the road, for his friends do impatiently expect him.

We believe that the King will be certainly here to-morrow night.

My Lord Shrewsbury is fallen very ill again in the country, of his bleeding.

I wrote to you on the 12th under cover of Mr. Seward, and I likewise wrote to you on the 15th.

147 [Guy] will not be in dispair of seeing 440 [Harley] on Saturday night next."

WILLIAM BLATHWAYTE to [ROBERT] H[ARLEY].

1700, October 7. N.S. Loo—I reckon our return will be at the end of this month, English style. We shall have some company at the Hague but not all you might expect; the inclination of the Kingdom as it shall appear at Westminster being like to be the measure of proceedings on this side for our further settlement. We are like to sit this winter as we are, but I will answer for nothing.

VISCOUNT WEYMOUTH to ROBERT HARLEY.

1700, November 2. Longleat—The general voice now gives us a new Parliament of which I design my son to be one, and in order to it have set all hands at work in Weobley and sent a servant over thither to give me a more certain account of matters than I can have from any in the place. I will push it as far as it will go "and not spare the prevalent methods there" but for several reasons thought it not best to send my son thither till the time of election.

I hear there will be contest in your county, and that you are inclinable to Captain Cornwall which will go a great way with me. I beg you to let me know which side is most likely to prevail with your freeholders.

I did write to my friends in Gloucestershire about you and my cousin Stephens, with desire that J. H. would join with him, and have for answer that is willing and has declared for him, but that Mr. Stephens thinks those of his name will be cold and so declines it. However both the Howes will endeavour for him at Cirencester, where I will serve him all I can.

[ROBERT HARLEY] to LORD WEYMOUTH.

1700, November 5—"I did intend to have done myself the honour of waiting upon your Lordship at Long Leate and have prevented the trouble your Lordship hath given yourself in your letter of the second instant, but I was hurried up hither by some little family concerns, and am heartily ashamed that I have not kissed your Lordship's hands before I received the honour of your last letter. I was sensible there was so many things wherein I was to beg your Lordship's direction, and so many other particulars relative to the affairs of our country that I had to lay before you and yet were not very proper for a letter, which made me willing to reserve them for a less hazardous sort of conveyance than by the post. If your Lordship will permit me only in general to acquaint you that notwithstanding all the arts that have been and are used, the little acquaintance I have, furnishes me with grounds to hope there is a spirit which will maintain the ancient government of England in Church and State and will not neglect those opportunities, which are like to be presented, for asserting that which is so necessary to our preservation, without being bewitched by any false lights of liberty or such pompous names as are used only to amuse the credulous and cheat them of what they have already.

After the death of the King of Spain I fancy it will not be unacceptable to your Lordship to hear what came but this evening, that the French King renounces the treaty. This is very surprising and better than we could expect. It is plain he is not fond of entering upon a war without which Naples &c. could not be his. How far this will influence the time of a Parliament meeting here a few days will discover. Lord Tankervile took the Privy Seal this day in Council, and Sir Charles Hedges declared Secretary of State in the vacant place."

CHARLES CORNWALL to ROBERT HARLEY at Lincoln's Inn.

1700, November 12. Berrington—Concerning which of them should stand as knight for the county of Hereford.

[HENRY GUY] to [ROBERT HARLEY].

[1700,] November 12—I am extremely troubled at the extremity of your father. "Enclosed I send you a letter from 75 [Sunderland]. When I see you I shall give you an account of the difficulties of that matter, and indeed hee hath some sort of reason in it. Hee doth most earnestly entreat you that you will never say anything to any one living of that business between 401 and him." My Lord Rochester was this day in Council declared Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, and my Lord Godolphin will sit in the Treasury to-morrow.

[SIR C. MUSGRAVE] to [ROBERT HARLEY.]

[1700 ?] November 13—Till Lord T[ankervile ?] have refused to accept it—which I am confident Sir William can effect—I hope their is no thought of offering it to me, because, as matters have past, I cannot accept of it without forfeiting my reputation, till his Lordship give it positive denyal, and upon that condition I submitted to be disposed of by Sir William, for upon the faith of a Christian that employ is the thing of the world I would avoyd. I hope Sir William will pursue that expedient of superseding his commission—which gives time for settling the matter—and give away the Goverment imediately. Cozen Richard Musgrave is come to town. The other part of your letter is most afflicting, and the party which is much the majority, will suffer when not countenanced by Sir N. and the other exalted, which must make Somers wish for its appearance in their house."

VISCOUNT WEYMOUTH to ROBERT HARLEY.

1700, November 15. Longleat—"Sir E. S. hopes to meet you at Egham on Wednesday, at whose return I hope to know what we are to depend on.

The affair at Weobley has hithertoe has noe ill prospect, but Mr. Birch threatens law, that he will spend a groate for my three pence, and soe he may till he is not worth a groate. Colonel Cornwall concernes himselfe much there in opposition to me, which I have not deserved of him nor shall much apprehend. If you have Mr. F's papers in towne I pray send me them by Sir E. S., if in the countrey, be pleased to order them to be sent sealed up, to my bayliff Mr. Alban Thomas, at Weobley."

"I would be glad to knowe what share C. R. has or is like to have in businesse, for they say he was not the person who made the new score. The Duke of Leeds shall be R[ ], and Lord P[ ] goe into Ireland. I wish it be possible to keep Sir R. Dutton from being one of the knights, and therefore wish my cousin Stephens would looke toward Cirencester, when with the help of Mr. Master he may carry it."

—— to ——

1700, November 24. Brampton—Sir Edward is much weaker than when you were here. Takes very little nourishing food. Rests little abed. When up, weary, and returns thither again quickly.

[Viscount Weymouth] to Robert Harley.

1700, November 30. Longleat—The struggle at Weobley runs high and the charge must be accounted by hundreds. There never was such a mercenary generation nor more animosity exprest on one side, but Rubicon is past and I will not recede. It will be of great use to know early when the proclamation will be published and the day for sealing the writs, that no money be spent after that day.

Earl Powlett to [Robert Harley].

1700, November 30—It is a great comfort to all in the country that we are not likely to be engaged in a new war, which, reflecting on what we now pay, is dreaded as double taxes. Our plain country dealing takes the King of France's refusing the treaty to be the justest and most honourable part of it, but I question whether the French who are never much eased by a peace will be of that mind.

[Viscount Weymouth] to [Robert Harley.]

1700, December 3. Longleat—By the mismanagement of my agents our cake is dough at Weobley, who did not distinguish between giving drink and money, but following the example of the other candidates have given money to all the electors when they asked their votes, and promised more upon condition they would vote for my son. This I think has made him incapable of sitting, if returned, and even the others also; for if he carry it one of them will certainly petition and set forth his bribery. For this reason I think to stop my hand as to more expence, but yet keep up the canvass, and possibly a small time before the canvass set up another freeman, who with ten votes will have a majority when the others are voted incapable.

I beg you to give me your thoughts on this whole matter, and if you know any gentleman of that country every way fit for the place pray name him to me, for I think he should seem to stand on his own legs and not come in upon my interest because it will be received with prejudice above. If your brother Edward is not secure I wish nobody better. I have been with my neighbour who puts me in heart, though otherwise not over sanguine.

The sheriffs are named so late that few of them will have taken their oaths before the writs come out; therefore they should be quickened, but how I cannot prescribe. May it be done by my Lord Keeper? If it were not extraordinary, a proclamation would do it most efficiently.

Henry Guy to Robert Harley.

[1700,] December 5—I hope this will find you safe come home, and I wish the condition of the good gentleman your father gave you more comfort in it than when you left the town.

The answer is come from 75 [Sunderland], but he cannot be persuaded to be here as yet. But as to what was told of him concerning 77, he doth protest every word of it is false, and that there was not the least ground for it.

The notice is come from the Regency of Spain, and the Court goes into mourning on Sunday. 78 [Godolphin] desires 104 [Harley] to remember what he said to to him in the coach, for that letter was then come though not spoken of.

67 [the King] hath spoken to 88 [Sir J. Trevor], and he is willing without any hesitation to come to 128. To-morrow 147 [Guy will go to him about it. 401 was much pleased at the answer of 104 [Harley] to that which was hinted to him.

147 [Guy] is to write to 163 [ ] to provide for 128. I have nothing more to add but that all things go on in the same way as you left them. Pray let me have a line that you have received this. The French Ambassador is expected here to-night. 411 [Sunderland] makes his compliments by me to 440 [Harley], who will hear directly from him in a little time.

T. B[ATEMAN] to [ROBERT HARLEY].

1700 December 5. London—Giving election news.

[HENRY GUY] to [ROBERT HARLEY].

1700, December 7—I sent this by the direction of 78 [Godolphin] to acquaint you that he and 79 [Rochester] are to be to-morrow at 30 and we expect that all concerning them will be declared on Thursday next.

[VISCOUNT WEYMOUTH] to ROBERT HARLEY.

1700, December 7. Longleat—I am very sorry for the unhappy occasion of your hasty journey into the country. I troubled you with a letter which I guess found you gone, which I should be unwilling to have miscarry because in it I acquainted you with my doubt that my agents at Weobley have spoilt the business by given money barefacedly, and therefore thought of setting up some other person, but receiving last night a note from Sir E. S[eymour] that you seemed to wish I could proceed vigorously "because C[ ] hopes were I would desist." I therefore resolve to carry it on to the last.

[FRANCIS GWYN] to [ROBERT HARLEY.]

1700, December 9. Ford Abbey—I thank you for the news of Robin Price which I am extremely well satisfied with.

I do not envy Mr. Montagu his peerage but I cannot help begrudging him the title of our poor friend Halifax.

ROBERT PRICE to ROBERT HARLEY, at Brampton.

1700, December 12. Lincolns Inn—This day the Earl of Rochester was declared in Council to go Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, and this day your humble servant's warrant was signed by the King to be a British judge.

The town designs you to be our Speaker and others make you a Baron, and to tell you all their surmises will make a volume.

Our friend of Longleat put an embargo on his purse upon Sir Edward Seymour telling him that giving money was bribery and would avoid the election. He desired my opinion. I was of the same but told him that since he was clipt he must not sink or for ever after renounce all pretensions to the borough. I hear he has ordered a pair of new shoes to each voter. I doubt their votes will be of "running leather." The

'Colonel's ginny men doe desert. They say Winny has produced a 500*l.* bag and that she will distribute in her life time, if so ginnyes and shoes are all cast away."

[Henry Guy] to [Robert Harley.]

[1700,] December 14—I received your melancholy letter of the 10th instant, and I cannot blame you. I do truly lament with you the loss of that worthy gentleman; not only as he was father to my friend, but as I myself had some share in his friendship, besides the damage to the public, for he was true to his country against the greatest temptations. But after all, this is not only an accident entailed on human life, but it was to be naturally expected by you in a short time; and therefore I hope after the first heat of this shock, you will mitigate it by your wonted prudence.

My Lord Chief Justice Treby is dead.

Enclosed I send you one from 78 [Godolphin]. I know not whether he will mention this in it, but before the post come in, he told me that both he and 79 [Rochester] did desire your opinion of who shall be in the room of 256 [Treby].

I was mistaken, for it should have been 130 for Cabinet Council, for so it is in the alphabetical cipher; but in the other it is not so, and the figures are so unequally placed to the names, that I do not well know whom it means; therefore that must be mended.

I wrote to you on the 12th instant, with one from 75 [Sunderland] in it.

Enclosed I send you one from 79 [Rochester]. It is in thought that 88 [Sir J. Trevor] be in the place of 592 [Treby]; but this not to be till Lent Assizes.

Thomas Foley to his son[-in-law], Robert Harley.

1700, December 16. Whitley—I send this to condole with you for the loss of our very good friend.

Thomas Foley to his brother[-in-law], Robert Harley.

1700, December 16. Whitley—We here are very sorry to here of the death of good Sir Edward. My going to Stafford last week prevented my father sending sooner. I hope I have acted since I left you as well as I could without your prudence and assistance.

My uncle was resolved whether I stood or not that he would not be in the next Parliament. I endeavoured what I could to persuade him to stand for Stafford, told him I would endeavour to come into the county or at Wich, but there was no moving him. We were sent for by our friends at Stafford and went. When we came, the burgesses were very zealous to have us both and brought us a paper of the names of near half the voters in the town that were double votes, that is, for us both. Sir Thomas Peshall told us he would order his son to desist as there was no likelihood of his carrying it. My uncle desired they would excuse him and give their votes for me. They said they would have us both. The burgesses seemed discontent that my uncle declined it as they had no great kindness for Mr. Chetwynd. My father continues much as he was, though I fear rather weaker than when you were here. He will take no physic but the Bristol or Spa waters, and I cannot persuade him to continue to take Dr. Radcliffe's pills.

Before I went to Stafford I was with Sir J. Pakington and told him my father was willing I should stand for the county. He told me he would do me all the service he could, underhand, but did not think fit to join with me unless the gentlemen desired it, but thought there would be no meeting of the gentlemen. Upon talking with my friends the generality were of opinion that it would be very doubtful whether I could carry it now since so many were already engaged, but that another time by begining earlier it might be had with ease.

[ ] to [Robert Harley.]

1700, December 17—By Saturday's post "I made you my very hearty condolence for the loss of your worthy father, who I know had a very good esteem of my father and was very favourable in his opinion of my brother and myselfe, for which I shall be allwaies indebted to you now he is gone. I tooke the liberty of asking the Attorney whether he wished his friends should serve him on the occasion of Sir George Treby's death, and he answered me very easily that he did not desire it, but he wished Mr. Northey might come in. I have used my endeavours to prevent the suddaine disposall of the place without very due consideration, but have as yett mentioned nobody to the King. I will be sure to putt my Lord Keeper in mind to despatch the sheriffs."

[T. Bateman] to Robert Harley, at Brampton.

1700, December 19. London—Mr. Morgan of Tredegar is dead of the small-pox. Lord Somers is mustering his last list against the Reigate election but he will hardly be able to exclude Sir J. P[arsons]. The candidates for Weymouth and Melcombe Regis are Lord Weymouth's son, Mr. Harvey, Mr. Santloe, Mr. Knight, Mr. Shallot and Sir Christopher Wren. Whether the last succeed for himself or not, he has promised to engage his friends for Lord Weymouth's son.

[Henry Guy] to [Robert Harley.]

[1700,] December 19—This Parliament was dissolved to-day, and a new one is appointed to meet on the 6th of February next.

I received yours of the 13th instant. The Doctor hath been out of town awhile, but I left a letter for him, and yesterday I received an answer from him, which I now send you enclosed. 88 [Trevor] declines to be where 256 [Treby] was, and there are thoughts of him for it, whom you mentioned to succeed 88 [Trevor]. 89 hath positively refused 168; and by a little patience 426 will certainly have what he desires, for it is resolved it shall be done the other way, since 89 is so unwise to hinder it from being done this way. I do not hear that 206 will yet consent to what was proposed, but it is thought that when 261 is completed, he will; because he is still believed to have an eye upon that. The business of 82 is so very great that he hath scarce time to eat, this will end on Saturday and then I will be with him: 79 [Rochester] will be with him this day. The Welsh Judge hath his patent. As to 99, his son doth know and is well satisfied that all the means possible were used for the sheriff, and he, as he says, hath wrote it fully to his father, who I hope is too reasonable to be angry if every the least thing be not done all at one time. I am glad of the civility you had from 441; we say here he will lose it, and that Sir Ralph will carry it against

him. 88 [Trevor] is secure of Lewis, and declines that of 147 [Guy], therefore he hath pitched upon Sir Robert Bedingfield an Alderman of London, an understanding and a true man. I wrote to you on the 12th and 14th instant, which I hope you have received.

78 [Godolphin] hath directed me to let you know that the Proclamation will be in the same form as the last, and set forth that 68 [Parliament] will be forthwith called to meet by the day above-mentioned, and the writs will be issued in a week after, and bear the date of their issuing, that—to prevent the penalties of the Act for expenses—there may be notice between the proclamation and test of the writs.

There are two letters come from the Regency of Spain to the King, and in both they earnestly desire a good correspondence and friendship with England. It is thought that in a few days the Ambassador will be named to go to 154.

C. Musgrave to Robert Harley.

1700, December 21—It is great goodness amid all your trouble to think so much of my father. Mr. Harcourt is gone out of town, and not finding Dr. Radcliffe at home I acquainted him by letter of the account I had from you, and I doubt not but he will take care my father's interest shall not suffer by false reports.

[Henry Guy] to [Robert Harley.]

[1700,] December 24—I received yours of the 17th instant, and have little to say in this, because I wrote to you a large answer to everything in mine of the 19th instant which I hope you have received. The writs will be sent out on Friday next. 147 [Guy] hath had a long conversation with 82, and finds him very right and firm in everything. He hath had the same with 220, and hath told him everything to write for the satisfaction of 99, which it is hoped will have the effect, that in reason it ought to have.

T. B[ateman] to Robert Harley, at Brampton.

1700, December 24. London—Sir Ralph Carr opposes Sir H. Lydal at Newcastle, and, it is believed, will carry it. Mr. Mason and Molyneux have quarrelled in their office and the bridge of Mason's nose is broken. The history of the new coinage is to be wrought in a suit of hangings for Lord Halifax and in order to it, the painter has seen all engines and postures. A very worthy gentleman is enquiring for a share in the New River. I am sure you would like his partnership.

A. Stephens to her niece, Abigail Harley, at Brampton.

1700, December 24—Condoling with her on the death of her father, Sir Edward Harley. *Signet.*

[Henry Guy] to [Robert Harley.]

[1700,] December 26—I received yours of the 22nd instant, but you do not tell me in it that you have received mine of the 19th

instant, which was a long letter in answer to several things about which you wrote to me in yours of the 13th instant.

Immediately on receipt of his last, I went to 78 [Godolphin], and told him what you wrote to me about the quick coming of what belongs to 231. He assured me that this noon he and 79 [Rochester] would speak to 82 to do as you desire. To balance the ill omens you mention of February 6th it is the princess' birth-day.

Thus far I wrote this morning: as soon as I have dined I will go to 82, to know what method he will put the thing into for your satisfaction, and will finish my letter by an account of it in the evening. 147 [Guy] hath been this afternoon with 418, and he hath ordered him to assure 104 [Harley] that what belongs to 231 shall be sent directly to that 214 [sheriff]. There are others as Worcester, Gloucester, Hereford, Monmouth &c., but they shall be taken in coming back, but from hence they shall go directly and first to 567. The new 550 [sheriff], if he hath passed all for his office, is at Hereford; if he hath not passed all, then it will be given to the old one. The person sets out from hence with it to-morrow by day break, so that it may be guessed he will be with that 214 [sheriff] on Monday night or Tuesday morning next, for he goes through on one horse.

John Methuen to Robert Harley.

1700, December 26. Dublin—Pray remember the occasion is come by Lord Rochester being declared our lieutenant, in which I depended on your favour and friendship, and pray let me know your thoughts freely of all things in that matter that may relate to me.

Charles Cornwall to [Robert Harley].

1700, December 29—Concerning the Herefordshire election.

T. B[ateman] to Robert Harley, at Brampton.

1700, December 29. London—Sir Christopher Wren has desisted at Weymouth. Sir R. Dashwood declines Oxford county because he and Lord Abingdon have had some misunderstanding. Sir Edward Norris is put up in his room. Mr. Lambton is a candidate for Durham county. Mr. Boulter meets with opposition at Boston from Sir W. Yorke, and Mr. Irby yet hopes to carry the election. Sir John Kaye is preferred to Lord Downe in York county.

[Henry Guy] to [Robert Harley.]

[1700,] December 31—I received yours of the 26th instant. This morning 586 hath been with me, and doth positively assure me that 435 and 96 will be both chosen at 532, and he hath this assurance from letters that he daily receives from thence, and doth much blame the uncertainty of 96 all this while. I hear nothing either of or from 99.

I wrote to you on the 26th instant, and in it gave you an account that 82 did assuredly resolve to send that which was for 231 directly to 214 [the sheriff]; the messenger he told me should go away on Friday morning. This he faithfully promised me, and I doubt not but he hath done it, so that the messenger must be with 214 [the sheriff] last night.

Last night I had a letter from 105, wherein he doth not doubt his election; but I wish he be not mistaken, if what we hear here be true. I have no more at present.

Sir Robert and Sir Edward Harley.

[1700?]—"A brief but true account of the pious lives of Sir Robert Harley and Sir Edward Harley. "*Twenty pages.*"